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Tajik President Resigns; Supreme Soviet Chairman Assumes Control

The president of Tajikistan, Rakhman Nabiyev, "was forced to resign on Monday [7 September] after he was detained in the Dushanbe airport by groups of armed opposition," according to Dushanbe radio. In a written statement reported by ITAR-TASS, Nabiyev said: "Taking the existing political situation into consideration, and to stop the bloodshed in my country," "I resign of my own free will". The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet subsequently transferred presidential powers to its chairman, Akbarsho Iskandarov.

Russia To 'Temporarily' Control Central Asian Frontiers

Responding to the Tajikistan crisis, the head of Russia's external intelligence service, Primakov, announced that "Russia intends to temporarily control the frontiers of some Central Asian states, as they are not yet able to do so independently," according to Moscow television. Meanwhile, Moscow radio reports that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is "very concerned" about the confrontation and has emphasized its readiness "to cooperate with the Tajik Government that is recognized by its people."

CIS Defense Ministers' Meeting Yields No 'Specific Results'

The meeting between Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov, commander in chief of the CIS Joint Armed Forces, and the defense ministers of Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, and Kazakhstan, which ended on 4 September, "did not yield any specific results," according to an ITAR-TASS report on a news conference given by Shaposhnikov after the meeting. Shaposhnikov added, however, that "some movement in the stances taken by the sides was evident." The ministers initialled 14 of 20 documents submitted, including a statute on the main command of the CIS Joint Armed Forces, agreements on the procedure for mutual transfer of servicemen of the armies of the CIS countries, on training of military cadres and on distribution of graduates of military higher educational establishments, and on establishing communications between the CIS Joint Armed Forces Chief Commissariat and governing bodies of the Armed Forces of the Commonwealth states. But the participants failed to initial the draft agreement on the "collective military security of the Commonwealth states." "Setting aside the problem of nuclear weapons," the Council of Defense Ministers "restricted itself to a protocol note concerning the role that will be allocated to the conventional armed forces within this system." A Russian TV report adds that no agreement on strategic forces was reached and that after more consultations between the four republics the issue, as well as others, will be submitted for consideration by the council of heads of state in Bishkek at the end of September. Russian TV also reported that Shaposhnikov said the ministers discussed the candidacy for the post of general secretary of the Council of Collective Security, "but he didn't name any names." Shaposhnikov said he was "pleased" with the meeting, noting its "integrational nature."

Armenia Protests Turkish Airspace Violation

Yerevan and Moscow Radios report that the Armenian Foreign and Defense Ministries protested the 6 September airspace violation by a Turkish cargo plane. Although permission was not granted, the plane tried to enter the Yerevan airport zone three times before flying off. The Foreign Ministry sent a protest note to the Turkish Foreign Ministry and called on "Turkish authorities to refrain from similar gross violations...in the future, for they might have grave consequences for our bilateral relations."

Shaposhnikov Assesses Defense Ministers Meeting

LD0409154792 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1433 GMT 4 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Naryshkin]

[Text] Moscow, 4 Sep—The consultations between the commander in chief of the CIS Joint Armed Forces and the leaders of the military departments of Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, and Kazakhstan on matters connected with CIS nuclear strategy and the composition and procedures for administering the strategic forces did not yield any specific results. However, some movement in the stances taken by the sides was evident. Air Marshal Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov stated this at a news conference on the results of today's session of the Council of CIS Defense Ministers. The discussion of a set of problems connected with the strategic nuclear forces will be continued on 25 September at the head-of-state level in Bishkek.

Because the stances taken by the sides on these matters did not coincide, they did not succeed in initialing the draft agreement on the collective military security of the Commonwealth states. For this reason, the Council of Defense Ministers, "setting aside" the problem of nuclear weapons, restricted itself to a protocol note concerning the role that will be allocated to the conventional armed forces within this system. Marshal Shaposhnikov cast doubt upon the likelihood of his taking part in Russian-Ukrainian talks on the status of the two naval schools in Sevastopol, which have become another sore point in bilateral relations since Ukraine decided to set up a National Naval Institute on the bases of these higher educational establishments. This is a matter of interstate relations and should be solved on a bilateral basis, he stressed. The heads of the military departments discussed the candidacy for general secretary of the Collective Security Council. Marshal Shaposhnikov explained that it is the prerogative of the Council of Heads of State to confirm the candidacy, and rejected requests from journalists to name the candidate.

Evidently, the most substantial of today's statements by the High Command was the recognition of the fact that strategic forces need to have a national allegiance. Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev and I have been charged with working out a mutually acceptable solution to this problem by the time the meeting of the heads of states opens in Bishkek, Shaposhnikov noted.

During two days' work, the Council of the CIS Defense Ministers discussed and initialed 14 documents, including a statute on the main command of the CIS Joint Armed Forces (JAF), agreements on the procedure for mutual transfer of servicemen of the armies of the CIS countries, on training of military cadres and on distribution of graduates of military higher educational establishments, on establishing communications between the CIS JAF Chief Commissariat [Glavkomat OVS SNG] and governing bodies of the Armed Forces of the Commonwealth states, and others. A positive decision has been adopted on three agreements affecting the interests of military aviation, including the improvement of the reliability of air traffic control and the exchange of air navigational information.

On Troops in Georgia, Abkhazia

LD0409204192 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1600 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Report by O. Trushin on news conference by Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov, commander in chief of the CIS Joint Armed Forces, after a meeting of the CIS Council of Defense Ministers on 4 September; passages within quotation marks recorded; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] [Shaposhnikov] "There will be no CIS Armed Forces on the territory of Abkhazia or Georgia. Georgia is not a member of the CIS. Therefore this is a matter that concerns Russia and Georgia."

[Trushin] That was stated at a news conference today by Commander in Chief Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov after the meeting of the CIS Council of Defense Ministers. He also noted that the agreement on peacemaking forces in the conflict zone had been reached directly by Russia, Georgia, and Abkhazia.

Summing up the results of the meeting of the heads of the military departments of the CIS countries, Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov characterized it as an integrational meeting. Out of the 20 documents that the defense ministers had planned to consider, 14 were signed. Some of them will be submitted for consideration by the council of heads of state in Bishkek at the end of September, including one on the concept of collective security. Although the document was indeed adopted as a basis at the defense ministers' meeting, it covered only conventional arms. Unfortunately, there was no success in reaching an agreement on strategic forces. After additional consultations with the military and political leaderships of the four nuclear former Union republics, this issue will also be submitted at the Bishkek meeting.

On the issue of Tajikistan and the recent trip there by the CIS commander in chief, Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov assured journalists that the rumors that an attempt on his life was being prepared had turned out to be just rumors. As for the southern borders of the CIS and, first and foremost, the Tajikistan border, he noted that one of the reasons for the events in Tajikistan is the fact that the Republic's borders can be infiltrated. Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov emphasized that he had presented the issue of strengthening the southern borders to state leaders and that it is now being discussed.

On Closer Military Cooperation

LD0409203192 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1700 GMT 4 Sep 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The Council of Defense Ministers of the Commonwealth states today discussed preparations for a regular meeting of the CIS heads of state in Bishkek. It was not possible to resolve everything.

[Correspondent I. Minayev] The meeting took place behind closed doors, and at the news conference today Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov decided to satisfy journalists' curiosity to a certain extent. The military ministers adopted several important documents, some of which will be presented for examination by the Council of the Heads of State in Bishkek. The international legal status of the Supreme Command [Glavkomat] of the Unified Armed Forces was defined. Those who wish to serve only in their homeland heaved a sigh of relief. An agreement was adopted on the procedure for transferring servicemen from the Armed Forces of the former USSR to troops of CIS states. The ministers agreed on cooperation in the production of equipment and in the training of personnel, too.

Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov got journalists curious when he reported that the defense minsters had a preliminary discussion of the candidacy for the post of general secretary of the Council of Collective Security, but he didn't name any names. The final decision is to be made in Bishkek.

On the whole, the commander in chief was pleased with the meeting, having noted its integrational nature. However, there were flies in the ointment. The status and procedure for handling strategic forces were a stumbling block. There is still no agreement between the nuclear states. But Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov is not despondent. He told journalists about a meeting that he had after the Council meeting with the ministers of defense of Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, and Belarus in which a drawing together of positions was noted:

[Begin Shaposhnikov recording] The strategic forces should, of course, belong to a state and in connection with this the decision was made and instructions were given to me and to the leadership of the Russian Ministry of Defense to hold additional consultations with the military and political leadership of the four states of Russia, Kazakhstan, Belarus, and Ukraine with a view to the document being ready by 25 September and presented for discussion by the heads of states in Bishkek. [end recording]

CIS Foreign Ministers Meeting Opens in Minsk

LD0809061292 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0100 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Text] RIA reports that a meeting of the CIS foreign ministers opens in Minsk today. According to observers, the meeting will apparently debate, among other things, Kazakhstan President Nursultan Nazarbayev's initiative on creating a CIS banking alliance. Nazarbayev has presented three options to solve the problem of a common financial policy. They are to retain a defined ruble zone, bring in an EC-style common policy, or transition by all CIS countries to individual currencies. The main item on the agenda for today's meeting remains the possibility of forming a consultative and coordinating economic council for the CIS.

[Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian at 0000 GMT on 8 September adds that, according to RIA, "CIS Commander in Chief Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov is also expected to attend" the CIS foreign ministers' meeting. The report adds: "Observers link his presence to the fact that the CIS defense ministers were unable to agree on all issues at their meeting in Moscow. In particular, there are outstanding differences over collective security and a nuclear strategy concept for the CIS. Shaposhnikov also wants an opportunity to deliver a report at the upcoming CIS heads' of state conference in Bishkek."]

China, Arms Cuts To Be Discussed

LD0809103992 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0941 GMT 8 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Minsk September TASS—"The Minsk meeting of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) foreign ministers is a logical continuation of their efforts to coordinate foreign policy activities," said Belarusian Foreign Minister Petr Kravchenko here on Tuesday [8 September].

Greeting conference participants, Kravchenko expressed confidence that such meetings will be traditional.

The ministers of the 11 states intend to discuss the entire agenda of a CIS summit to open in Bishkek (Kyrgyzstan) on September 25. They will examine and prepare appropriate documents and agreements for signing.

Documents include regulations on the basic principles of using interstate agreements, standardisation of economic legislations of CIS countries, prearation of CIS charter and issues on the restoration of rights of deported individuals, national minorities and peoples.

The ministers also intend to disuss some military issues, including a convention on CIS military security, a document on nuclear strategy and to suggest for approval the statute on the chief command of the CIS allied Armed Forces.

The conference participants, including the Russian delegation, attach much importance to signing two agreements here—between Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan on talks with China on border issues and mutual reduction of armed forces in border areas.

The Minsk meeting is attended by commander-in-chief of the CIS armed forces Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov who will participate in discussing various issues, including the implementation of the treaty on conventional armed forces in Europe.

Under the treaty, eight CIS states (including Georgia) were to cut the same quantities of arms as the former USSR. However, the eight countries now lag in implementing assumed obligations, including the reduction of tanks, armoured cars and other materiel, which is a violation of collective obligations under this treaty.

The conference is being held behind closed doors.

Differing Versions of Moscow Accord on Tajikistan

OW0409200492 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1751 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Report prepared by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from "Presidential Bulletin"]

[Text] This Friday [4 September], the Russian president's information service presented to INTERFAX a text of the joint statement of the leaders of Russian Federation, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan in regards to the recent developments in Tajikistan.

"In the recent days," the document reads, "the situation in the Republic of Tajikistan has seriously aggravated. Political struggle inside the country has brought it to the brink of a civil war. Continuing armed confrontations have produced bloodshed. There are many casualties, first and foremost, among peaceful population. The country's constitutional system and democratic transformations have been endangered. The southern border of Tajikistan, hence of the Commonwealth of Independent States, is systematically violated, and major quantities or arms and ammunition are illegally brought across the border.

"In proceeding from the norms of the international law and guided by the principles of morale and humanity, we are stating our adherence to the indissolubility of the fraternal bonds of our peoples, inviolability of the Commonwealth's southern borders, and inadmissibility of escalation of the civil war in the Republic of Tajikistan, posing threat to the security of countries states and peoples, impairing political stability in the region.

"We are calling on the government and leaders of political groups in the Republic of Tajikistan to act in the situation that has developed with consummate realization of the responsibility they are bearing for the developments both in their country and in the entire region.

"Naturally, no one other than the people of Tajikistan has the right to determine the future of their country. At the same time, there should be no doubts that we will take all the necessary measures for assisting the fraternal Tajik people in stabilizing the situation in the republic, strengthening its sovereignty and territorial integrity, insuring security of the southern border of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

"We are appealing to the fraternal people of the Republic of Tajikistan with a call to rally for the purpose of restoring peace, civic conciliation, and stability in the country".

On the same day, representatives of the Kazakh MFA [Ministry of Foreign Affairs] provided to the INTERFAX correspondent in Alma-Ata a text of the same statement which, however, features serious differences with its version supplied by the Russian MFA.

"In the recent days, the situation in the Republic of Tajikistan has seriously aggravated. As a result of armed confrontations of various political groups in their struggle for power there are many casualties, first and foremost, among peaceful population. The people are dying, bloodshed continues. The country is practically involved in a civil war. There is a pending danger to the constitutional system and democratic transformations.

"Major quantities of weapons and ammunition are illegally brought into the country across its border with the neighboring states in the south. The state border of Tajikistan—the southern border of the Commonwealth of Independent States is systematically violated.

"The Republic of Tajikistan is facing a real danger of its separation from the CIS countries, and forfeiting its sovereignty.

"Such a situation cannot be tolerated any longer. The extraordinary situation which has taken shape in the Republic of Tajikistan requires that extraordinary measures be taken by the Commonwealth of Independent States, first and foremost, by Russia, Kazakhstan, and the Central Asian states.

"In proceeding from the norms of international law, the principles of humanity, and provisions of the Collective Security Agreement signed in Tashkent May 15, 1992, by six CIS states, including the Republic of Tajikistan, we are stating our adherence to the indissolubility of the fraternal bonds of our peoples, inviolability of the Commonwealth's southern borders, and inadmissibility of escalation of the civil war in the Republic of Tajikistan, one way or another posing threat to the interests of our peoples, impairing political stability in the region."

The Republic of Tajikistan, its government, and leaders of political groups are bearing full responsibility for the situation that has developed in this region. The countries members of the Commonwealth and of this region are using all of their rights and resources for upholding the interests of their peoples. In compliance with the Helsinki agreements, the Paris Charter, the UN and CSCE principles, the General Declaration on Human Rights, and in the interests of peace and stability in this region, an additional contingent of border guard troops will be forwarded to insure security of the southern borders and other urgent measurers will be taken". [no opening quote mark as received]

INTERFAX Note: In the two texts, we have accentuated apparent discrepancies. At the moment of release of the Presidential Bulletin, we have not established which of the above texts is the finalized versions endorsed by four presidents. By the bilateral agreement between the Governments of Russia and Tajikistan, the border guard troops there have been jurisdictioned by Russia. On a request by Tajik President Rakhman Nabiyev the two countries earlier agreed that additional contingent of Russian border guard troops should be directed to the republic in order to insure protection of the CIS southern borders. Knowledgeably, the border guard detachments, especially at the Tajik-Afghan border, are experiencing continuous shortage of personnel (which in part has been caused by the recent decision of the Belarusian Government to return all of its nationals on active duty outside the republic back to Belarus). The Collective Security Agreement has not been ratified by the parliaments of six republics—its signatories (Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, and Uzebkistan). In compliance with the agreement, the introduction of collective peacekeeping forces on the territory of a state—a signatory of the agreement can only be effected with the agreement of this country's supreme power agency.

Russia, Ukraine Clash on Black Sea Navy Schools

Russia Rejects Ukraine Takeover

PM0309082792 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 2 Sep 92 p 1

[Report by V. Andronaki: "Love for the Sea Is Not Shared"]

[Text] The beginning of the academic year in two Sevastopol higher naval schools has been marked by a drastic deterioration of relations in the Black Sea Fleet. Without the knowledge of Black Sea Fleet commander, Admiral I. Kasatonov, a Ukrainian Ministry of Defense commission under the leadership of Colonel V. Pilipchuk has decided to transfer these higher education institutions to the jurisdiction of its naval forces. Rear Admiral V. Denisenko, chief of the Nakhimov Black Sea Higher Naval School, has been dismissed from his post by order. These actions provoked an immediate reaction from the Russian Ministry of Defense.

Russian Defense Minister P. Grachev has sent a telegram declaring the commission's activity unlawful and not liable to execution. The order on the dismissal of V. Denisenko has been rescinded. Visiting the school, Russian People's Deputy S. Shakray noted that the issue of naval schools must be a subject of discussion at the meeting of the Russian and Ukrainian presidents.

Admiral Kasatonov Comments

OW0209203692 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1839 GMT 2 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] "Presently I would characterize the fleet's situation as such: there is no war, but there is no peace," reported Commanding Admiral of the Black Sea Fleet Igor Kasatonov at a press conference Wednesday [2 September]. Said he, "There's never been a fleet in the history of man which has been so torn apart and subjected to such strong political winds as the Black Sea Fleet."

Criticizing the position of the Ukrainian Ministry of Defense, Admiral Kasatonov said that it keeps Black Sea Fleet ships on the main base, "inflicting the greatest political harm and hindering the protection of navigation." He expressed the opinion that "if military crafts had been used in the evacuation of people from the zone of military conflict in Abkhazia, then a helicopter would not have dared to shoot at the "Kometa" hydrofoil full of refugees. Kasatonov believes this all lowers the prestige of the Russian and Ukrainian flags. He cited instances of incorrect relations to crafts under these flags in international waters, stressing the complexity of the military and political situation in the Mediterranean region.

Concerning the circumstances of the Black Sea Fleet, he reported that they were also complicated by the fact that, despite a moratorium, units under Ukraine's command have surrounded the Black Sea Fleet in a half-circle. "In Simferopol a system to completely bug communications on the fleet's radio and telephone networks has been established under the code name Omega."

Regarding the recent controversy surrounding the Nakhimovsk Academy and the use of force in relation to its chief admiral, Igor Kasatonov announced that it was "a lesson of our own disgrace."

Russia Protests Ukranian Actions

LD0309182892 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1652 GMT 3 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrei Naryshkin]

[Text] Moscow, 3 Sep (TASS)—Friction in the Russo-Ukrainian relations created by the recent decision of the Ukrainian side to place two naval high schools in Sevastopol under Ukrainian jurisdiction came to light at a meeting of the CIS Council of Defence Ministers on Thursday [3 September]. Commander of the Black Sea Fleet Admiral Yuriy Kasatonov sent to the Council of Defence Ministers a telegram with the protest against unilateral actions of the Ukrainian military command.

Commenting on the attitude of the Russian leadership, Aleksandr Kotenkov, chief of the state-legal agency of the Russian president, told ITAR-TASS that the two naval high schools in Sevastopol train specialists in nuclear rocketry equipment and in the maintanance of nuclear power plants on submarines. Ukraine has neither nuclear rocketry equipment nor submarine-based nuclear power plants. There are nuclear systems and nuclear power plants only on the Pacific, Northern and Baltic fleets that are based on the Russian territory and are under Russian jurisdiction. It will take decades and

require the spending of billions of roubles to set up a similar base on the Russian territory, Kotenkov said. In addition, the three Russian fleets will lose combat potential in several years if the training of specialists in nuclear missile equipment and submarine-based nuclear power plants is stopped.

The question of the destiny of the naval high schools is a political question and it must be in the competence of the presidents of the two countries. The supreme command of the joint armed forces of the CIS should participate in the discussion, Kotenkov said.

Ukraine Sends Russia Protest Note

LD0709214792 Kiev Ukrayinske Telebachennya Television Network in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Text] The Foreign Ministry of Ukraine has sent a note to the Foreign Ministry of the Russian Federation in connection with the situation that developed around the Black Sea Higher Naval School in Sevastopol. As is known, on 31 August the commission of the Defense Ministry of Ukraine, which had arrived at the school in order to carry out attestation and to prepare proposals for conversion of the school into the naval institute of the Ukrainian Navy, encountered confrontation from Admiral Kasatonov, commander of the Black Sea Fleet. A threat of force and other illegal methods were used against the members of the commission and the provisional acting head of the school, appointed by the Ukraine defense minister, with the aim of preventing them from fulfilling their task.

The note states that the Ukrainian side cannot describe this as other than an action directed at breaking off the Yalta treaty. It is stressed that the Black Sea Naval School is not a subject for negotiations for state delegations on the questions of the Black Sea Fleet because it was not and is not part of its organizational and staff structure. It is also stressed that, in order to solve the problems of training military cadres for the CIS Armed Forces, corresponding treaties have been drawn up and if additional decisions regarding training officers for the Russian Navy are needed, these problems can be solved at the inter-state level.

Considering what has been stated in the note, it is proposed that the necessary measures be taken for ensuring the fulfillment of the Yalta treaty by all bodies of the state administration of the Russian Federation and that negotiations be shortly held with the aim of working out a mechanism of joint command over the Black Sea Fleet and solving the question of appointing a new commander of the fleet.

Government Reacts to Crisis in Tajikistan

Temporary Control Over Borders

LD0509215992 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 2000 GMT 5 Sep 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The head of Russia's external intelligence service, Primakov, has said Russia intends to temporarily control the frontiers of some Central Asian states, as they are not yet able to do so independently.

Yevgeniy Primakov stressed that Russia has no interest in open frontiers across which arms, bandit formations, and drugs can pass.

Foreign Ministry Voices Concern

LD0809113992 Moscow Programma Radio Odin Network in Russian 1100 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Text] In an interview with ITAR-TASS today Russia's First Deputy Foreign Minister Fedor Shelov-Kovedyayev said that the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs is very concerned about the intensity of the confrontation in Tajikistan. He confirmed that Moscow's position on Dushanbe has not changed and said that we are ready to cooperate with the Tajik Government that is recognized by its people.

Yeltsin Outlines Hopes for Japanese Relations

LD0609183592

[Editorial Report] Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian at 1500 GMT on 6 September broadcasts a 45-minute recorded program featuring an interview with President Boris Yeltsin, conducted on 5 September via a television bridge with Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese.

The announcer introduces the program: "We have for you a video recording of a telebridge between Moscow and Tokyo in which Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin replies to questions from Japanese citizens. The telebridge is devoted to the upcoming visit to Tokyo by the president of Russia."

President Yeltsin is seen seated in a Kremlin office, while NHK chief commentator Korehito Obama is in the NHK studio. Citizens in Niigata and Nemuro, some former residents of the four northern islands, are also participating.

Also in the NHK studio is Tadao Morimoto, adviser to the Toray Institute of Business Administration, and Tsukuba University Associate Professor Yutaka Akino.

The program is conducted in Russian and Japanese; simultaneous Russian translation is superimposed over the Japanese.

The program opens in the NHK studio with Obama and his two guests. Obama briefly explains that Yeltsin is due to visit Japan for four days starting next Sunday, and that during his visit Yeltsin is scheduled to hold three rounds of summit talks with Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa. He says the talks will focus on the Northern Territories and on relations between Japan and Russia.

Yeltsin is shown on a large screen seated in his Kremlin office. Obama first welcomes Yeltsin's visit, and then asks whether it will be going ahead as scheduled.

Obama says: "The point is that you intend to visit Japan, and we are thinking, what are you bringing with you? Unfortunately, there are certain forces in our country that oppose your visit."

Yeltsin replies: "Well, I have been invited to Japan by the leadership, and by the prime minister, Mr. Miyazawa. I have not yet paid an official visit to Japan as president; this is my first visit, and I attach very great significance to it. In spite of the fact that you really do have certain forces, as you put it, whipping up the Northern Territories issue, maybe even somewhat hysterically, I am not refusing to visit. The visit will take place. I think that during the talks we must find a way together of making our relations more dynamic. They have been sort of frozen for several decades; a peace treaty has still not been signed. That is a cause for regret and is a very bad situation. We have to make progress, and I think that during the visit we will actually find a way of not only substantially improving our relations but also of broadening them in terms of volume, in any sector, in the economy, in science, culture, training personnel, trade, and other areas."

The video cuts to Obama in Tokyo, who describes how former citizens of the Northern Territories have high hopes for Yeltsin's visit. The video shows scenes of Niigata, near Vladivostok.

The video cuts back to the studio where Obama introduces his two guests, Morimoto and Akino, who will join Obama in asking Yeltsin questions.

Then Miki Takahashi, a Niigata college student majoring in Russian, introduces herself in Russian but asks questions in Japanese. She says she is happy to see his face for real, and Yeltsin replies: "Thank you, I am also happy. You are a nice girl. Come up to me when I am on the streets in Japan, travel to see me. I will not be in your town, but I will be in Tokyo, come along and we can meet. We will shake hands."

Takahashi asks whether there were any problems in Russia for students. Yeltsin replies: "No, regarding study we have no problems, and we await you with pleasure, please come and study." She goes on to ask whether she would have problems with food if she were to visit Russia. Yeltsin replies: "For your yen, we have the cheapest food in the world. But for rubles, yes, of course, it is expensive. So you will not perish from lack of food here."

Yoshio Hamamachi in Nemuro asks the next question. A former resident of the Northern Territories, he asks: "Mr. President is preparing to visit Japan. What does he think about the territorial question? We would be happy, I think, to see a just solution."

Yeltsin says: "Yes, there is such a problem, but I do not think that this question can be discussed, or even resolved, on a television monitor. I will discuss this issue during my talks with Mr. Miyazawa, Mr. Watanabe, and other Japanese leaders. At any rate, I have in my pocket 14 options. Which one to choose will be the difficult thing! But I would not like you to get carried away with the idea that the islands will be handed over right away during the visit. That is not going to happen."

Mr. Hamamachi says he hopes the territorial issue will be settled "so that all of our residents are treated fairly; we would like you to respond to our hopes."

Yeltsin replies: "I am, of course, prepared to consider, and ought to consider, your hopes as well, but I also have to consider the sentiments of 150 million Russians. There will be talks on this topic during the visit."

Mrs. Suzuki in Nemuro, a former resident of Iturup Island, asks about improving facilities for visits to the graves of relatives on the Kuril islands: "Do you think it would be possible to expand the framework for grave visits?"

Yeltsin replies: "I think this is a question that is not really political but moral. I can promise that we will completely eliminate all restrictions on such visits for people to visit their relatives' graves on the islands. We will eliminate all restrictions. That is, there will be visa-free entry."

Morimoto, in the NHK studio, says: "I would like to ask what Russia's view is of economic relations with Japan. Because economic cooperation and economic aid are a factor of no small importance in our relations." Morimoto notes the difficulties Russia faces in transition from the planned economy.

Yeltsin says: "First, I believe that economic relations between Russia and Japan are at a level lower than that of our relations with any other country. Such is the level of economic relations. This is very sad, of course. We are neighbors. Japan, like Russia, is a great power, a big country, rich in talent, technology and so on. And Russia has things to offer, as well—major scientific capability, very great creative potential. That is, there exists scope for development of our economic ties. But, regrettably, and it is difficult even to explain why, it seems to me that it is all made dependent upon a solution concerning the Kuril islands, and that is unfair. These two issues should be separated. We should develop our economic relations while concurrently dealing with the problems of the northern islands.

"Russia's economy is currently experiencing certain difficulties associated with its transitional period. We switched from five-year plans, from a planned economy, to a market economy, on 2 January. We are now into our ninth month under this system. I believe that reform is going according to the established plan. This year will be the most difficult, but as early as 1993, there will be a stabilization, an improvement in the financial and economic situation in Russia. We will be able to trade with you on a major scale, as they say."

Akino, in the NHK studio, asks: "Concerning the territorial issue, what have been your thoughts on this until now? We have never talked about this; we have not negotiated. Have you never given it any thought, or do you think that the time has now come when it is necessary to talk about this? If you have not yet come to any conclusions, do you think it is necessary to settle this right now? Are there reasons for putting this question off for now?"

Yeltsin says: "You are incorrect in saying that I have never given this any thought. I was in Japan—not as president of Russia, of course—and while there, I voiced my point of view, that it is necessary to tackle the issue of the Northern Territories legally and fairly. Second, at that time, I voiced my point of view on a five-stage solution to the problem. I think that it was a good proposal, and many Japanese leaders agreed with this at the time, apart from [those in] Hokkaido. We could, as one option, discuss this question, among others. The first stage of the five is to acknowledge that the problem exists and to recognize it officially. The second is to declare these islands a free economic zone; we have already done this. The third thing is the demilitarization of the islands. According to our calculations, this was scheduled to last 10 years; we are now prepared to reduce the deadline to two years and completely withdraw troops from these islands. We are prepared to do this, but we will seek an understanding on this in Tokyo."

Morimoto puts another question: "Russia is unfortunately economically unstable right now; this influences the state of the world economy and all mankind. Mr. President, do you think it will be possible to demonopolize your economy in Russia? Is it possible to grant wider rights to private enterprise? We consider that this is altogether necessary for the development of free economic relations."

Yeltsin replies: "Yes, we are experiencing a 15 percent drop in production. But we have reduced military orders 68 percent. That is, the reduction is on account of the defense sector, because we are producing less military equipment and because we have reduced the military budget 18 percent. I am also bringing with me a general outline for reduction of military tensions in the Asia-Pacific region, among others. So, there are some good proposals there, as well.

"Second, as concerns our laws about liberalization of foreign activities, foreign ties, trade, and so on, such laws have been passed. We have good preferential conditions for foreign investments. The Russian market is unique, there is none bigger in the world, and if Japanese

businessmen are slow off the mark and fail to stake their first claim this year or in 1993, then it will be too late."

In Niigata, an unidentified NHK reporter introduces Ichiro Eguchi, a Japanese businessman operating a joint-venture car repair shop in Khabarovsk. Mr. Eguchi says many Japanese enterprises hesitate to do business with Russia because of business uncertainty in the country. He asks Yeltsin: "Have you perhaps drawn up any special law, a draft law, in order to guarantee stability in our mutual economic relations, especially for joint ventures?"

Yeltsin says: "I understand that you really do have difficulties, as do other foreign investors, and private entrepreneurs, since private ownership was born only this year in our country. For practically 75 years our people did not know what private property was; moreover it was even forbidden to speak that word. What enterprise, what private property is, was wiped from the memories of three generations of people, wiped from their genes. But we are now on that path. Yes, it is transitional. Yes, it is complex. But all the same people are beginning to understand what private property is—private ownership of land and other property. Therefore, we do have legislation. But until it is implemented, I agree with you, of course, it is difficult so far. I will take with me laws, draft laws, rather, drafts of economic agreements with Japan. Let us sign them! Then we will be the guarantors of the implementation of the ideas, the plans, the programs for Japanese entrepreneurs and the leaders of Russian firms and organizations. I am ready to sign such an agreement."

Hiroshi Tokono, a former resident of Shitokan Island, then asks: "Why are you giving a third country, South Korea, the right to fish in territorial waters which are adjacent to the northern islands?" "Why are you complicating the territorial question with the difficulties in our fishing relations?"

Yeltsin says: "In the first place, these islands are Russia's, and Russia sets the quotas for fishing around these islands. Therefore, I do not accept your accusations. It is another matter, obviously in our economic agreements, between Russia and Japan—incidentally, as far as fishing is concerned, no such agreement exists. Therefore, let us draw up and sign such an agreement accordingly, if you think that the quotas for Japan are unjust. I am ready to return to that question and to review the level of the quota."

From Niigata, Mr. Eguchi asks: "When will your banking system begin to operate smoothly?"

Yeltsin says: "We now are working very actively with a group of U.S. bankers, headed by Corrigan, Mr. Corrigan, that is, the banking reserve system, in New York. There was an 18-strong group here from America, consisting of specialists and bankers. They worked here for a long time and now have drawn up for us their thoughts on the reform of the entire banking system. It is now the turn of namely that reform, of the whole banking system."

An unidentified NHK reporter in Niigata introduces Yoshimi Sakurai, deputy director of Niigata Hospital, which has treated Russian patients. Mr. Sakurai asks Yeltsin to improve communications on the Russian side, adding that improvement would stimulate economic exchanges between Japan and Russia.

Yeltsin says: "I would like to express my gratitude for the fact that you are taking so much to heart all our troubles, including medical ones, and for the fact that you are treating our Russian patients, to thank you personally. Of course, from the point of view of information science, we are not such a developed country as Japan. Information science lags behind in our country, including, telephone communications, too. Although we have very great possibilities. All of these possibilities were directed mainly toward military aims, were directed toward them for decades. We have the most advanced satellite communications system. All information could be relayed via satellites, and telephone communications could also be set up and running. We are presently carrying out that work in the conversion program. That is to say we are taking these communications away from satellite defense channels and are using them for civilian purposes. We think that during the visit, when we meet business people, we will also agree there that Japan will lend the relevant assistance, not without benefit to itself, also in ensuring the smooth running of information and of course, we will learn from you as far as the basics of health care are concerned also, although I won't say that health care is all bad in our country. We have a rather good scientific base but, on the whole, of course, in the countryside, let's say, far from the oblast, kray, and republican centers, and so on, things are worse there. But here, in such centers, the medical service is more or less quite well developed, all the more so since we are now going over to a medical insurance system in 1993. But your assistance in this respect will be useful to us."

A Niigata college student recalls seeing Japanese television reports of an ammunition dump explosion near Vladivostok, as well as reports on nuclear-powered submarines abandoned in the city's port. He asks if there will be a problem with pollution, such as radiation leakage.

Yeltsin replies: "First, as concerns accidents in dumps, after the accident—it is unfortunate, of course, that it occurred—I signed a decree, and we are completely removing these dumps there, there will not be any. As regards the submarine, there was no leak, but the problem of dismantling submarines, taking into account that Bush and I signed an agreement on a two-thirds reduction in strategic nuclear weapons, including nuclear submarines, from a technical point of view, we really do have a problem. Science has now given us a solution, that is to cut the submarines into parts with a laser and then to make use of them. Also, we generally believe at present that when nuclear warheads are dismantled, they might be sold, to Japan, for instance, for use as fuel for atomic power stations. We have 1,200

tonnes of these nuclear warheads, uranium and plutonium. It is excellent fuel for atomic power stations, enough for hundreds of years."

Then NHK commentator Obama raises the subject of the Chernobyl accident, asking Yeltsin what Russia is doing to prevent a similar accident.

Yeltsin says: "I understand you, and indeed the Japanese people must be understood all the more, as you have lived through Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and this tragedy will remain forever, of course, in the hearts of the Japanese people and all generations, and not just them, but throughout the world. Chernobyl is also a tragedy. These are the measures we are currently taking on nuclear power stations. Over two years, we are completely closing first generation power sets which are unsafe. Further, as regards second and third generation sets, a reconstruction project has been worked out, we are just getting down to this reconstruction, we're being helped by the Americans, to bring nuclear power stations up to safety norms which would be under the supervision of the IAEA [International Atomic Energy Agency] and which would not breach international standards. Third, a new type of station is being developed, which will not only meet international norms today, but also make them substantially tougher, from the point of view of safety."

Professor Akino asks Yeltsin to summarize, in about three points, the major purposes of his scheduled visit.

Yeltsin replies: "I do not feel very comfortable on the screen now, here in front of you. You have a custom, in the workshop, say, where people are working, there is a plaster bust of the manager, the boss, and everyone who has become very angry with that boss can go up and give the bust a good bashing. It is a pity that there is no plaster bust of me in your studio, I think that you could make use of it there, that procedure that you have in Japan. So I do not feel very comfortable, since you keep on attacking me, I would say, although I am well inclined toward the Japanese, the Japanese people, and I would like to conduct the visit so that it might bring benefit to our countries, both Japan and Russia.

"I have already said that we have, at the moment, an outline for development, including a reduction of the security threshold and arms reductions, for the Asia-Pacific region. I will bring it along on my visit to Japan. We will discuss it. That is, we want not only to reduce armaments in Europe but also in Asia because we are a Eurasian country. In fact, the greater part of Russia is in Asia, not Europe."

A Nemuro citizen notes his city's contacts with Russia are very old. He thinks that Yeltsin should do something to mark the centenary of the first Russian trade mission to Japan.

Yeltsin says: "Thank you for your kind words, for the smile, not only for myself but for all Russians. Indeed, this friendship is most important of all, more important than economic and all other ties. I am sure we will develop our friendship so that it becomes stronger and so that there are not any dark patches between us. I think that the centenary of the ship's arrival should certainly be marked, and I will sign the relevant instructions. When I am on the streets of Moscow, for instance, I probably see more Japanese than others among foreigners. You are very fond of travel, and it is always a pleasure for me when I go out in the streets and walk. I recently had a walk around Moscow and saw thousands of people, including Japanese, and they were always passing on friendly greetings, always with a smile, and it is very pleasant. So let us be friends; I am all for it."

A Niigata college student says: "I would like you to send more exchange students here."

Yeltsin says: "Oh, thank you, that is good! We did have a provisional agreement to send about 1,000 people a year. We have some minor troubles with currency at the moment. Nevertheless, I agree. After all, those who go to Japan to study or to continue their education are of benefit to the Japanese, since they later become specialists here in Russia, they advertise the Japanese market, Japanese technology, Japanese goods. Naturally relations with Japan will improve because of this. I totally agree with this, and the sending of students and young specialists is about to rise drastically, starting as early as this autumn."

A citizen in Nemuro welcomes Yeltsin's statement about visa-free visits and says he thinks relations could improve even further.

Yeltsin says: "Good. I agree completely, and I believe that, whatever options we might agree on for the Northern Territories, all the same, you should develop these islands, from the point of view of tourism, information technology, hotel, and other complexes, and so on. We would like you to expand tourist facilities for Japanese in Maritime Kray considerably. We would like you to build a highway from Japan to Moscow and travel all over Russia in your cars, because we have now removed restrictions, through my decree, on 15 oblasts and cities that were closed. So you can travel through them, please do! Build this road! I beseech you, I invite you."

A Niigata student asks: "What wishes do you have for us Japanese?"

Yeltsin relies: "Well, first, that you should have good sumo, judo, and kendo competitions. Second, happiness and prosperity for every Japanese family, and good health. Although the longevity of the Japanese is higher than in many countries, including Russia, nevertheless, I wish you good health. For you, a young student in your second year, and for every Japanese family."

Obama concludes the interview by expressing his hope that Yeltsin's upcoming visit to Japan will be a success and thanks the Russian president for his time.

Yeltsin replies: "Thank you."

Japan's Miyazawa Assesses Prospects for Ties

PM0809094192 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 8 Sep 92 p 3

[Interview with Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa by Olga Dmitriyeva; date and place not given: "Pacific Ocean, Stormy Currents. Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa Answers KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA's Questions"]

[Text] [Dmitriyeva] Mr. Prime Minister, in an interview with NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in March this year you expressed hope for further progress in the talks to conclude a peace treaty between our countries. Do you think there has been any progress and that the ground has been laid for a fundamental resolution of this issue during President B. Yeltsin's forthcoming visit to Japan?

[Miyazawa] First and foremost, I would like to stress that Japan welcomes President Yeltsin's visit as the first visit to Japan by the head of a young democratic state—Russia. I would like to hold talks with the president in the hope that, during the visit, an agreement in principle will be reached on resolving the problem of the ownership of four islands in the Kuril Chain—Iturup, Kunashir, Shikotan, and Habomai—that are the reason no peace treaty has been concluded between Japan and the USSR (and now Japan and Russia) for 47 years.

Japan is not exploiting Russia's present weakness to demand that age-old Russian territory be conceded, and it is not motivated by any anti-Soviet or anti-Russian stance. Its position is based on a desire to assert the principles of legality and justice between our countries, to create genuinely reciprocal trust, and to ensure the possibility of the rapid development of relations between Japan and Russia.

President Yeltsin has stated that this problem must be solved from the standpoint of legality and justice, moving away from the categories of victor and vanquished in the war, and he is showing a desire to accelerate the talks on concluding a peace treaty. Following the emergence of the new Russia, intensive talks have also been held at the deputy minister level in this context. Although these talks did not result in any specific agreements on the return of the four islands, several preconditions for resolving the problem are gradually taking shape. One of these is Russian citizens' increased interest in and understanding of the historical and legal facts of the case. In the era when the USSR was a totalitarian state, the people were subjected to propaganda that claimed that the four northern islands were age-old Soviet territory and that there was no territorial problem between Japan and the USSR; therefore, Japan's claims were not reported to the Soviet people. But now that freedom of speech has taken root, far more Russian citizens are able to grasp the legitimacy of resolving this problem, and this fact is convincing proof of the existence of the Russian people's traditional sense of justice. Moreover, a major contribution to the improvement of mutual understanding between the Japanese and Russian peoples is being made by the visa-free exchange trips which began in April between residents of the four northern islands and Japan itself.

One other point is that cooperation between Japan and Russia has advanced considerably over the past year. Japan heartily supports your efforts to bring about democracy and create a market economy, and it is assisting these efforts. Last October it announced that it was providing a $2.5-billion loan. This year it has provided approximately $100 million in gift aid. For instance, in January we provided $50 million worth of food and medicines—mainly to the Far East region—as emergency aid. Japan has also allocated $20 million to set up a scientific and technical center aimed at assisting Russian nuclear scientists. At the G-7 summit in Munich Japan announced that it was allocating $25 million to improve safety standards at nuclear power stations in Russia. It also backed Russia's membership of the IMF and will participate both in the provision of IMF loans to Russia and in setting up a ruble stabilization fund. Japan is the second largest contributor to the IMF, so its contribution to these projects will be significant. Apart from this governmental aid, cooperation between Japan and Russia is also moving ahead at the private level. Japanese enterprises have invested approximately $300 million in Russia.

It is particularly noteworthy that there has also been great progress in the sphere of human contacts and cultural ties. I would like the Russian people to realize that as a result of these achievements, Japan is sincere in its desire to create long-term friendly relations with Russia.

[Dmitriyeva] While recognizing the undoubted importance to Japan of resolving the issue of the islands' return, I would like to view the problem from the standpoint of timing. Would not, in your view, a positive response from Russia increase the instability of its own position by causing a chain reaction in territorial claims from the former republics of the former USSR—which, as you will appreciate, could result in the most unpredictable conflicts?

How would your government act, were it to find itself in such a situation?

[Miyazawa] The resolution of this problem is important not only for Japan, but for Russia, and for stability worldwide. I do not think that the resolution of the Northern Territories issue will produce a chain reaction of territorial claims from the republics of the former USSR because we are proceeding on the basis of the fact that state borders between Japan and Russia have not yet been established, and borders within the former union were legally fixed by the 1975 Helsinki Final Act and the treaty on the formation of the CIS. In this respect the northern territories question is the only question of defining borders in Russia that has remained unresolved since World War II.

Moreover, by solving this problem, Russia will show the entire world that, in independently unloading the negative legacy of the Soviet era, it shares the principles of legality and justice that unite the international community.

[Dmitriyeva] So Japan is now waiting for the Russian people to make a "bold decision on the islands' return," after which—as you put it—your country's people will give the Russian people the utmost support. Could you outline in more specific terms the possible avenues and scale of such support, and thereby dispel the doubts held by many of my fellow citizens—who believe that, as soon as it gets what it wants, Japan will coldly turn its back on Russia?

[Miyazawa] First and foremost, I would like to note that it is precisely because Japan would like to establish stable long-term relations of friendship with Russia that we are talking about our desire to solve the territorial issue, to conclude a peace treaty, and to create an atmosphere of genuinely mutual trust between the two countries. Therefore, it is entirely out of the question that Japan would subsequently have no interest in Russia. In the long term Russia would be given large-scale assistance, which would serve to put the Russian economy on the road of development.

[Dmitriyeva] Answering questions from our correspondent a few months ago, before visiting the CIS, Mr. Watanabe said: "We really want to open a new era in Russo-Japanese relations."

Do you think it possible that the future will see the creation not simply of good-neighborly relations, but of a kind of Japanese-Russian alliance based on common geopolitical and economic interests? What influence, in your view, might this alliance have on the alignment of forces in the world?

[Miyazawa] The modern world is entering a time when it is becoming multipolar politically, and without state borders economically.

In this situation, I think that Japan and Russia—as members of the community of advanced countries and sharing a policy of ensuring the prosperity of their peoples under democratic and free economic conditions—should cooperate for the sake of peace and prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region and worldwide, collaborating closely with other members of the world community.

[Dmitriyeva] For many years the Soviet foreign policy tradition was to be very transparently geared to the West. Do you, Mr. Prime Minister, share the view held by a number of Russian politicians that a reorientation to the East—and above all to Japan—is necessary? To what extent would this chime with Japan's own interests?

[Miyazawa] The British writer Kipling once said: "East is East and West is West, and ne'er the twain shall meet." But times change, and the Asia-Pacific region—particularly South Korea and the ASEAN countries—have been achieving brilliant success in economic development. It is thought that in the 21st century this region will have the greatest economic might in the world. The countries of the Asia-Pacific region are also making their voices heard in political affairs.

Given this, I welcome the fact that Russia is showing considerable interest in the region. Japan, which has outstanding potential for providing capital, technology, and a market, could be of considerable help in strengthening relations between Russia and the Asia-Pacific region.

[Dmitriyeva] I know that some Japanese politicians have been expressing the curious idea that if Moscow returned the four islands—thereby paving the way to a peace treaty—Japan would break off its alliance with Washington and become neutral. Then Japan would receive exclusive rights to develop Siberia, and Moscow could identify Japan as its preferred partner.

Are there any realistic grounds for this idea from your government's point of view?

[Miyazawa] I do not see Japanese-U.S.-Russian relations as a problem of choosing between either Japanese-U.S. or Japanese-Russian relations. We need a broader concept here that sees relations of cooperation among the countries of Asia and the Pacific as an integral whole geared to stability and prosperity.

On the basis of this position, Japan is not thinking of acquiring any exclusive rights to develop Siberia. Such development would require enormous funds and export markets for the large quantity of resources involved, and this in turn would require participation that is open to all countries. Here we need not the mentality of the time of the communist Soviet Union—happily living with monopolies and striving for a small profit—but modern thinking based on the idea of open and healthy competition.

[Dmitriyeva] Some 47 years ago Japan started its ascent to the "economic miracle" after its defeat in the war and a correspondingly very complex situation in the country as a whole. Russia also lost the long cold war with the West and is starting a new era under exceptionally difficult conditions.

What, in your opinion, does Russia now need to do to achieve a Japanese-style economic breakthrough? What have Russian's main mistakes been and what, in your opinion, are our main advantages?

[Miyazawa] I do not want to assess Russia's economic policy here. Of course, the experience of postwar economic reform in Japan could be appropriate for Russia, if only to a small extent. I would cite as an example a few points from the experience of Japanese postwar economic development.

First and foremost, it should not be forgotten that, along with the tough reforms and the implementation of industrial policy pursued by the government, the maximum amount of private initiative and enterprise was liberated. Some of Japan's enterprises, which are now

gigantic by world standards, built up their current position through their own efforts, starting from scratch after the war. The existence of this private initiative, enterprise, and tough competition played the most important role, since it improved the quality of goods and services and helped to build up production.

Moreover, the fact that, following the war, Japan—which had been reborn as a civilian state—stopped channeling loads of funds into armaments was an important factor.

A most important factor was the existence of the work ethic in the Japanese people. Nobody forced Japanese workers to work within the framework of "collectivism." The Japanese desire to work comes not so much from such external stimuli as from internal factors. That is, most Japanese have an inherent need to prove their own worth through excellent work, and have a sense of responsibility.

From this standpoint I believe that the Russian people have many assets when it comes to development. Needless to say, these are their high educational and scientific standards and, moreover, the desire in many citizens to work hard. I have heard how well Russian people can work if given the conditions to do a meaningful job and show initiative. Russians have rich creative imaginations. These factors will make themselves fully felt as long as an environment guaranteeing free economic activity is provided. In this environment, the young people currently growing up under democratic conditions and burning with a desire to do business will undoubtedly play a great role in building a new society in Russia.

[Dmitriyeva] Mr. Prime Minister, what supreme task did you set for yourself in accepting the post of leader of such a powerful state as Japan? What, if I can put it this way, is your personal historic mission?

[Miyazawa] I would say this: As leader, I am most and primarily concerned about the question of the extent to which our country can make its own contribution to the cause of world peace. My second concern is to improve the lives of the Japanese themselves, to make them richer, freer, and happier. This question—how to make Japan a prosperous and thriving country for all who live here—is one I constantly ask myself.

[Dmitriyeva] The concept of the "Japanese national spirit" is world famous. Could you say what influence it has had on your own character and actions?

[Miyazawa] Well, you will appreciate that that is a very difficult question. May I ask just what you mean by this "spirit"?

[Dmitriyeva] Personally, I am struck by at least two manifestations of it—a kind of superhuman industriousness and an amazingly strict cleaving to moral and ethical traditions, despite all the incursions on them by mass culture and mass awareness.

[Miyazawa] Yes, you are right, the Japanese are indeed exceptionally devoted to the jobs they do. But do you know what this supreme diligence is based on? A sense of shame. Not sin but shame!

What does this mean? It means that the Japanese always feel part of a collective and are most sensitive about working no less than anyone else and earning no more than anyone else!

I am talking about us, about the Japanese, and consequently, about myself too.

[Dmitriyeva] Thank you for the interview, Mr. Prime Minister, and permit me before saying good-bye to present you with a KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA teapot to remember us by!

[Miyazawa] Oh, what a big one! Is it for tea or vodka?

[Dmitriyeva] Whatever you like!

UN Secretary General Continues Visit

Yeltsin Evaluates Problems

OW0409183592 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1759 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Report prepared by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovsky, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from "Presidential Bulletin"—transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The reforms in Russia are progressing along the earlier outlined plan, but "with great difficulties", Boris Yeltsin admitted in his conversation with the UN Secretary General, Butrus-Ghali, Friday. The Russian president pointed to the collapse of the politicians' predictions who foreshadowed the catastrophe of this course within the past two-three months. The head of the Russian government regards this a special mission of the Russian people who have voluntarily taken upon themselves the rigors of this hard testing.

Boris Yeltsin emphasized that in contrast to the former Soviet Union, new Russia is fully supportive of the course pursued by the United Nations and is trying to make as many as possible tangible steps in that regard. The president noted that in spite of serious economic difficulties, the Russian Federation is going to make its contribution to the UN in the amount of $80 mn [million]. The same amount, he pledged, will be invested in the first quarter of 1993.

The UN Secretary General noted in this regard that Russia is setting a good example for many other countries which are much better off. Some them delay the transfer of funds needed for the UN to function.

Boris Yeltsin emphasized that in Russia most decisions in support of certain steps undertaken by the UN are associated with "psychological difficulties". He offered as an example the Russian stance regarding the situation in Iraq and Yugoslavia, noting that two Russian-flagged

ships have already entered the Persian Gulf in order to support the efforts of the international community. The UN has every reason to count on Russia in terms of support of its peace-keeping efforts, the Russian president said.

During their discussion, the sides devoted much attention to the elimination of various regional conflicts. The press secretary of the President of Russian Federation, Vyacheslav Kostikov, drew the attention of journalists to Boris Yeltsin's words that at this stage Russia is resorting to "soft diplomacy". However, there is too much bloodshed around Russia. The country and the Russian people can never be unconcerned with this, and they will multiply their peace- keeping efforts, Boris Yeltsin stated. He referred to Russia's mediation in the resolution on Abkhazia as one of the examples of such efforts.

President Yeltsin expressed an opinion that unfortunately the UN specific aid in putting out certain "troubled spots" on the planet sometimes comes too late. In this regard, he believes, the United Nations ought to adopt a course aimed at reforming some of its mechanisms. In particular, Boris Yeltsin proposed to set up regional quick-reaction forces in the framework of the CSCE, emphasizing that they could be regarded as "affiliated" the UN peace-keeping forces.

Butros-Ghali gave a high assessment of yesterday's talks in Moscow on the problems of settlement in Abkhazia, saying that he is impressed with the courageousness of Russia. Without new Russia, he said, it would be impossible to reform the United Nations, the UN Secretary General said.

Comments on Talks; Meets Kozyrev

OW0409214992 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1837 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Foreign Affairs Minister Andrey Kozyrev met with UN General Secretary Butrus-Ghali Friday in Moscow. Answering questions from journalists before the meeting, the leader of the influential international organization noted that, among other issues, he plans to discuss the situations in Yugoslavia and Afghanistan with the head of the Russian Foreign Affairs Ministry.

Ghali reported that UN committees are currently debating the matter of lending aid to the Afghan population and to Afghan refugees in Iran and Pakistan.

He stressed the obvious role Russia plays in the stabilization of the crisis in former Yugoslavia as a permanent member of the Security Council that provides military and diplomatic assistance to the UN. He indicated that the conference on this issue recently held in London became a model of cooperation by members of the international association, regional organizations, and the UN in the stabilization of international conflicts.

Ghali reported that during a discussion with President Yeltsin, they considered the prospects of collaboration by members of the UN and the CIS.

The Russian minister stated that the Russian president plans to take a number of measures to repay Russia's debt to the UN, and to continue to participate in the international association's peace support operations.

Kozyrev Briefs Press on Talks

LD0509100492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1715 GMT 4 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Sergey Postanogov and Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Moscow September 4 TASS—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev today met United Nations Secretary-General Butrus-Ghali, who arrived here on Thursday on an official visit.

Butrus-Ghali told correspondents before the negotiations beginning they will discuss a wide range of issues, in whose solution the United Nations is involved, including the situation in Afghanistan, Serbia and other world regions.

The U.N. secretary-general said during this morning's negotiations with Russian President Boris Yeltsin they discussed, in particular, the U.N. activities, including peace-making operations. President Yeltsin praised the U.N. activities and fully supported the peace-making efforts of the organization, he stressed.

Butrus-Ghali said he has had substantial negotiations with the Afghan president in Jakarta. The Afghan leader assured the secretary-general he will do his best to ensure the safety of diplomats remaining in Afghanistan and their departure from the country.

Speaking on Russian participation in the Yugoslav settlement, Butrus-Ghali noted the very important and constructive role of Russia in the search for ways of peace in the region. In particular, he noted comprehensive cooperation with Andrey Kozyrev during the recent london conference on former Yugoslavia.

In his turn, Kozyrev told correspondents the Russian Federation allocates the Russian troops for peacemaking efforts only in case this is necessary to support the United Nations. However, the troops are not sent to pay the Russian debt to the U.N. The debt is not so large, said Kozyrev and it concerns the payment of regular dues. Today the Russian president took a number of decision as regards "the Russian financial obligations to the United Nations", said Kozyrev.

The negotiations in Moscow also considered the situation in Tajikistan and around Abkhazia. The sides examined possible sending of U.N. observers to Georgia. Butrus-Ghali confirmed U.N. observers will be sent to

Georgia in accordance with the document adopted at yesterday's Moscow meeting on the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict settlement.

The U.N. secretary-general assured the Russian foreign minister the U.N. will continue making efforts to return ex-Soviet POWs in Afghanistan to their homeland.

Butrus-Ghali Emphasizes Interdependence

LD0509202492 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1615 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Report by ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Igor Shubin]

[Text] Moscow, 5 Sep—"We are all passengers on a big ship. If this ship sinks, all its passengers, including those traveling first and third classes, will also go down"—this is how UN Secretary General Butrus-Ghali, who is currently visiting the Russian capital, formulated the idea of the interdependence of the modern world. He met today representatives of the public at the Moscow State Institute of International Relations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation.

Characterizing the modern stage in UN activities, Butrus-Ghali stressed its leading role in settling a whole range of complex and diverse conflicts practically in all areas of the world. In connection with this, he spoke in favor of using regional mechanisms more actively in resolving conflict situations which break out on the planet between nationalities, as well as conflicts of an ethnic nature.

The end of the "cold war" period, the UN secretary general noted, has granted a unique opportunity to develop cooperation between all countries for the sake of a better world. This, in its turn, will facilitate the growth of trust in the United Nations of the entire world community and will allow for the transformation of this body from a mere "discussion club" into an effective instrument for tackling complex problems which affect the interests of all of humanity.

Butrus-Ghali also attended a choral music concert today held in Kolomenskoye. The UN secretary general is to stay in Russia until Monday.

Stresses Relations With Russia

LD0709121992 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1158 GMT 7 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondents Sergey Skripnikov and Sergey Staroselskiy]

[Text] Moscow September 7 TASS—Relations between the United Nations and Russia are of immense importance to the future of this organisation, U.N. Secretary-General Butrus-Ghali said at a press conference in Moscow today.

"I attach particular importance to relations between the U.N. and the Russian Federation because Russia is a permanent member of the Security Council. In addition, this is a major power in international affairs, a country that has long-standing diplomatic traditions," Ghali said.

Ghali noted that his talks with President Boris Yeltsin, Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev and other officials, scientific workers and representatives of non-governmental organisations "have confirmed anew this positive aspect of our relations."

Responding to journalists' questions, Ghali expressed hope that talks between U.N. representatives and Libyan leaders that took place recently will make it possible to implement Security Council Resolution 731 and ensure lasting peace in that region.

Many questions put at the press conference concerned the situation in former Yugoslavia. Ghali noted that the decisions of the London international conference on Yugoslavia open the way to a fair solution of all of the existing problems. He emphasised that the U.N. intends to continue and boost humanitarian aid to the population of the states that are part of Yugoslavia. To carry out this operation, it is planned to send additional contingents of U.N. peace-keeping forces to Yugoslavia.

Notes Strong Bonds Within CIS, CSCE

OW0709194292 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1311 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Russia and the UN are linked with bonds of strong cooperation within the framework of the CIS and the CSCE, UN Secretary-General Butrus-Ghali who is in Moscow now, told journalists on Monday.

During his stay in Moscow, Butrus-Ghali had talks with the Russian leaders, first of all with Boris Yeltsin.

Ghali said that Yeltsin strongly backed restructuring in the UN Secretariat. In its turn, the UN will assist the radical reform in Russia by giving consultations and rendering aid in various fields, said Ghali.

He said that the UN plays an active role in settling the conflicts in the former Soviet Union. The UN missions, he continued, helped settle the conflict in Moldova.

UN missions have been sent to the Caucasus, while UN observers took part in the Rome conference on Nagorno-Karabakh. The United Nations are ready to assume a more active role in seeking ways of peaceful settlement in this region, he said.

Ghali said that the UN Secretariat has plans to open UN missions in the capitals of six CIS states: Belarus, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Armenia, Azerbaijan and Uzbekistan.

Following the talks with Eduard Shevardnadze and the sending of a good-will mission to Georgia, the UN will consider the possibility of opening a mission in Tbilisi, said Butrus Ghali.

Spokesman Presents Perspective on Yugoslavia

OW0609233492 Moscow Central Television First Program and Orbita Networks in Russian 1845 GMT 1 Sep 92

[Interview with Vitaliy Ivanovich Churkin, deputy minister of foreign affairs, by Petr Orlov and Irina Zaytseva; from the "Utro" program—live]

[Text] [Orlov] According to latest reports the Serbs are prepared to turn over the control of their heavy weapons to the peacekeeping forces that are presently on Yugoslav territory. Observers link this turn of events with the results of the London conference. Several days, a considerable amount of time in the given situation, has already passed since it ended, but today we are returning to this topic once again, because of new reports from Yugoslavia and for our own reasons— as our guest in the studio today is Vitaliy Ivanovich Churkin, deputy minister of foreign affairs of Russia, who was the special representative of President Yeltsin in Yugoslavia prior to the beginning of the London conference. Naturally he also attended the conference.

[Zaytseva] Vitaliy Ivanovich, insofar as you were Yeltsin's representative in Yugoslavia from the very beginning. How did the proposals that you brought with you go over in London?

[Churkin] I should say that the visit to Belgrade by the president's special representative was only one of the elements of our preparations for the London conference. There was a whole series of other contacts as well, including Albania, London, Paris, Hungary, and many other countries. We carried out these contacts through various channels, but it is probably true that the visit of the president's special representative to Belgrade played a key role.

We restored our contacts with Belgrade after our well-known decision to support the sanctions. Besides we restored them on a balanced basis, without giving the Serbs anything in advance or making any hints that we are prepared to support them or whatever. We told them that you should come to London—and this was up in the air at the time—and you should come with a constructive position, that this could be your last chance to show the international community that you are in fact prepared to take part in talks.

I must say that we are under the impression that this extensive preparatory work paid off, as the contacts in Belgrade paid off, insofar as it was generally recognized that at the most critical point of the conference, when just before it ended it was literally on the brink of failure, the Russian delegation headed by Minister Kozyrev, played a very important and I would say a decisive role—although decisive may sound boastful—in working out the compromise formula that permitted the conference to conclude successfully. For 90 minutes we were literally engaged in a minor version of shuttle diplomacy. We had to go back and forth between the conference chairman, Prime Minister Major, and the Yugoslav leadership, which was in a room set aside for the Yugoslav delegation. In contacts with them—and there were three or four such consecutive visits—we worked out a formula that eventually permitted all of the delegates to return to the conference table and to conclude it successfully.

I think that if we look at the responses that we are now receiving it has become obvious to all that at this conference Russia declared that it has its own position, that this is a balanced position, and that we have an opportunity to maintain contacts with all sides. It is precisely as a result of and owing to this that cooperation with us is so valuable for the West, insofar as the shuttle diplomacy that I spoke of was undertaken by us in response to a direct request from Prime Minister Major. When he learned of our opportunities to contact Belgrade he turned to us directly and asked us to help. Now of course we also understood that it was essential to do this work.

[Orlov] Serbia's image in the press is now changing somewhat. They say that there is information that their image as an aggressor is not quite fair, that at times this has been a provocation in order to prove their malicious plans. How true is this and how important is this for this crisis in general?

[Churkin] I think that this question about the role of Serbia and Yugoslavia, which as you know now unites Serbia and Montenegro, although far from everyone recognizes them, is of important significance. If you look at history, at the development of this conflict in recent months, then the world community still agrees that Serbia has played the most negative role here if it is compared to other participants in the conflict. This is precisely why international sanctions, which we supported, were introduced against Yugoslavia.

Now as far as we saw it, the task of the London conference and the task of the Yugoslavs at the London conference lay precisely in showing that attitudes in Yugoslavia are changing. Now in Belgrade it is the new Prime Minister Panic who expresses these new attitudes and more constructive approaches in Yugoslavia. This is why in all of our preparatory contacts we told everybody that the Yugoslavs ought to be given an opportunity to show that there are new constructive elements. I must say that the results of the conference confirmed this.

You quite correctly drew attention to that aspect of the conference, to the fact that a decision was adopted to bring heavy weapons under control. There were several other moments which showed they had a positive attitude. For example, at the conference, Serbian President Milosevic, who is usually depicted as possibly the most sinister figure in Belgrade, suddenly proposed to send

international observers to absolutely all military units, right down to the smallest, to make it possible to see who in fact is violating the cease-fire agreement.

There were a lot of other interesting moments which, for the first time after long months of conflict, permitted a formula to be achieved which noted a positive trend in Yugoslavia's position. It says that if this trend continues, particularly as expressed in the statements and actions of Prime Minister Panic, then there are prospects for Serbia that the international community will not only gradually or completely lift its sanctions, but will also help Yugoslavia to solve its existing problems. This is an extremely important element.

[Zaytseva] Now you mentioned Panic. Does he really have a lot of power in Yugoslavia? Rumors have reached us that he behaved rather strangely in London, for example, by interrupting Milosevic's speech.

[Churkin] Well, I must say that the London conference was one of those rare conferences at which extremely interesting exchanges between negotiation participants occasionally occurred at the main conference table. I would like to say another thing in response to your question: The degree of Panic's influence was one of the main riddles when all the participants were heading for this conference. In the contacts we had, we adopted the following position: Let us give him a chance, let us focus on him insofar as he is the person who is saying the most constructive things. We could take a look at how much real power he has later. He really is a very unusual person. This could be seen perfectly well on television. I have already had three or four occasions to meet him, together with Minister Kozyrev or separately...

[Zaytseva, interrupting] It may have been visible to you there, but we have seen nothing. [laughs]

[Churkin] Yes. I am of the impression that he can find a common tongue with the other political figures in Yugoslavia as well. For instance, we had a unique experience with Minister Kozyrev. After we came to their room, they began to discuss what was truly the most important issue for them—whether they should return to the conference. They asked us to stay and so for 15 minutes we were able to observe how they interact. I should say the impression I got was that such leaders, say, as Panic, Milosevic, (Cesic), and Bulatovic, can talk with one another regardless of the complexity of their attitudes.

Now as far as his effusiveness is concerned, during this exchange it so happened that since the room was not very big people were standing up or sitting down. He turned to me and with a certain excitement said: You know, I am not a diplomat, so it is difficult for me to react to all of this. To which I said to him: That is probably why you are a millionaire. [laughter] Well, I think he liked this, and they.... [changes thought] Now since he really is a millionaire and had a very successful business career during the 31 years he lived in the United States, I think we should support Belgrade's political line as pursued by Panic. But, according to reports arriving from Belgrade, he faces an extremely serious situation. On 2 September, today, there could be an attempt in the assembly to remove him. I think this kind of action—although it is an internal matter for Yugoslavia and it is not for us to interfere in their internal affairs—would have the most grave consequences for the international community's perceptions of what Yugoslavia is capable of and where it is heading in terms of further steps aimed at normalizing the conflict.

[Orlov] We could say that the great pharmacist Panic may become the medicine for this conflict. Now let us close this topic, although many interesting analogies with the situation in the CIS and around it can be seen in it.

Let us turn to Georgia. We will turn to this topic because, first of all, it is a hot spot and second, because of your personal experience. You worked with Shevardnadze for two years when he was the USSR Minister of Foreign Affairs....

[Churkin, interrupting] And I am proud of it.

[Zaytseva] And....

[Orlov, interrupting] And today you would like to talk about this personal aspect.

[Zaytseva] May I? What do you think? Could Shevardnadze have predicted, when he was going to Georgia, that this conflict would reach this point, that it would reach this level? He is a very intelligent person, after all.

[Churkin] I do not think so. I think the step he took in leaving Moscow, leaving the wonderful position of president of the Foreign Policy Association which he himself created, to go to Tbilisi, was to a certain extent a sacrificial step on his part. Of course, as I see it, his task and aim lay in restraining the development of events in Georgia within political frameworks. He hoped he would succeed in this.

He hoped, due to his international prestige, he would be able to advance this country, which we all love, towards democracy and towards some civilized norms of behavior. It appears to me—although I must stipulate that I am no longer engaged in this issue professionally and it does not lie within my competence—that he is continuing these attempts today, although the situation is often out of control.

Now, for you and I this is not surprising or strange. We sometimes see this in our own country and have seen this before in other CIS states when the situation is not fully under control. My opinion is that Shevardnadze is now doing everything to pull through to the parliamentary elections on 11 October and to turn the numerous conflicts that are smoldering or that have already flared up into the constraints of a political dialogue. I must say that Russia is actively taking part in all these matters. A meeting in which President Yeltsin will participate will be held tomorrow, 3 September, and Shevardnadze has welcomed this meeting. We are counting on and hoping

that we will manage to help normalize the situation in Georgia, the extremely complex situation that has taken shape in this country.

[Zaytseva] But the Russian MID [Ministry of Foreign Affairs] has always considered Abkhazia to be a part of Georgia.

[Churkin] Yes, obviously. We support the territorial integrity of Georgia; There can be no doubts on this score.

[Orlov] Another question. Many assessments are being made presently by experts and observers to the effect that on the eve of the elections Shevardnadze will resort to power politics in one form or another and will attempt to make some points, directly or indirectly. In fact his rating does not appear to be particularly high for a political figure, some 80 percent [figure as heard] in such a complex state as Georgia. Is this possible, purely psychologically, from the portrait you have of him from the years that you have worked together with him?

[Churkin] I think not, I think that any excesses of power we see in Georgia is a departure from the classical line of Shevardnadze. I think the people, who as I understand it are in the majority truly continuing to support Shevardnadze in Georgia, are supporting him precisely because they see in him a hope for delivering them from this whirlpool of violent events that have overwhelmed the republic in recent days. I personally hope, and I am convinced he will nevertheless manage to lead his country to a normal and peaceful road of development and that the 11 October elections in Georgia will be successful and subsequently everything will be normal.

[Orlov] When did you last see him?

[Churkin] Unfortunately I.... [changes thought] I last saw him in Tbilisi in April.

[Orlov] You were his guest?

[Churkin] Yes, I spent several days in Tbilisi.

[Orlov] That was my last question, although it is a purely personal side of the matter. Vitaliy Ivanovich....

[Zaytseva, interrupting] No, I have one last question. Vitaliy Ivanovich, do you really consider that a diplomat cannot become a millionaire?

[Churkin] Well, I think a millionaire needs to be a much less inhibited sort of person than a diplomat, unfortunately. But we will see. In our time, as they used to say, a soldier must dream of being a general. Maybe every diplomat must dream of becoming a millionaire.

[Zaytseva] I wish this for you from the bottom of my heart.

[Orlov] Vitaliy Ivanovich Churkin, deputy minister of foreign affairs of Russia, has been in our studio for two reasons—the coordinating committee which will continue the line of the London conference on Yugoslavia is beginning its work, and talks between Yeltsin and Shevardnadze and the Abkhaz side and possibly representatives of the peoples of the northern Caucasus on the conflict between Georgia and Abkhazia will begin 3 September.

This was a personal opinion. Vitaliy Churkin expressed his personal point of view on these issues. Thank you.

[Zaytseva] Thank you.

[Churkin] Thank you.

Yeltsin Conveys Condolences to Nicaragua

LD0709160392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1456 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Text] Moscow September 7 TASS—President of the Russian Federation Boris Yeltsin sent a message of condolence to Nicaraguan President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro on Monday in connection with a devastating calamity which hit the country, claiming many lives and causing great material damage.

The Russian president conveyed his deep condolences to the families of the dead.

Political Issues

Explosion Rocks Moscow Medical Cooperative

LD0709095692 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0942 GMT 7 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sergey Podyapolskiy]

[Text] Moscow September 7 TASS—A grenade fired from a portable anti-tank grenade launcher rocked a building in Moscow's downtown Kutuzovsky Avenue at about 11:00 [0700 GMT] this morning.

The projectile, launched from a distance of 50 meters, hit the wall between two windows on the ground floor and exploded, sending glass fragments flying from several windows in the office of a medical-engineering cooperative inside.

The unidentified attacker escaped leaving the weapon behind.

A group of investigators has arrived on the spot, at 5/3 Kutuzovsky Prospekt.

Yeltsin Sets Up Presidential Council of Experts

LD0409203392 Moscow Programma Radio Odin Network in Russian 1800 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] Boris Yeltsin has signed a decree on the Council of Experts attached to the Office of the President of the Russian Federation. This Council of Experts, which will be independent of departments and ministries, will provide an opportunity to avoid the mistakes and blunders that often occurred in the past when decisions on major economic and industrial projects were made. The Council of Experts will be a voluntary body.

Lobov Named to Head Council

OW0409184392 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1801 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Report prepared by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from "Presidential Bulletin"—transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Boris Yeltsin has set up an expert council which is headed by Oleg Lobov. This body will analyze major socio-economic, scientific, technical, investment and other programmes, projects and proposals, sent to Boris Yeltsin.

IF [INTERFAX] note: On August 19, 1991, Yeltsin charged Oleg Lobov, then vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers, with the task of heading Russia's "reserve" government. Lobov and a number of Russian ministers were sent to Sverdlovsk to continue the struggle if the putsch were a success.

Yeltsin Signs Decree on Youth Policy at Meeting

LD0509100592 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1440 GMT 4 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Lyudmila Aleksandrova and Gennadiy Talalayev]

[Text] Moscow, 4 Sep— At today's meeting with youth representatives, the Russian president substantially corrected and signed the decree on immediate measures in the sphere of state youth policy, Secretary of State Gennadiy Burbulis told journalists at the end of the meeting. The president also signed a message to the Supreme Soviet in which the draft law on the main directions of youth policy is being passed over to the parliament for its examination.

Yegor Gaydar, the acting head of the Russian Government, reported to press representatives that during the meeting questions on study abroad, training of specialists for the market economy, and youth housing cooperatives were discussed. The question of pioneer camps was also discussed. "We all understand very well that it would be an awful blow to the children if we were to deprive them of the pioneer camps, which were among the few real achievements of socialism", Gaydar said. At the same time, he continued, they are very expensive. Therefore, we should be getting ready for the next year, review our possibilities—federal and regional. He described the problem of providing food for the children as the gravest one.

Vyacheslav Smirnov, deputy chairman of the executive committee of the Democratic Party of Russia and president of the charity foundation "Youth Chooses the Future", said that the meeting between the president and the youth representatives was fruitful. In particular, it was decided to develop programs on the support of youth enterprises and on giving them preferential credits. By the president's decree, a youth affairs committee will be set up and a house of youth and children organizations will be opened. Boris Yeltsin supports the idea of a national council of the youth associations to represent all the youth organizations in their interactions with the government. It was decided to hold similar meetings with youth representatives at least quarterly, Smirnov added.

Says Better Living Standard Not Promised

OW0409190692 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1801 GMT 04 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Russian president stressed the need for the rapid development of a complex national youth program for Russia, opening a conference Friday [4 September] with representatives of the country's youth organizations. He began the conference with a brief analysis of the situation, emphasizing that "today it is difficult, but in 1992 we did not promise any improvements in the

standard of living, decreases in prices, or anything like that. Thus, the public cannot condemn the president or the government for not fulfilling their promises," he said.

The head of state announced, "when we started the economic reforms January 2, we knew that our ratings with Gaydar fell drastically, however we went on with them." Among those working to advance reform the president named Gennadiy Burbulis, Yuriy Petrov (head of the presidential administration), and Ruslan Khasbulatov.

The president denounced the "prophets" among the former leaders of the former USSR, who predicted a rapid collapse of reforms in Russia.

New Roles for Parts of Former Supply Ministry

PM0409155792 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Sep 92 Morning Edition p2

[Dmitriy Khrapovitskiy report: "Suppliers Will No Longer Distribute Resources"]

[Text] In a month's time, on 1 October, in line with a Russian presidential decree, the Russian Ministry of Trade and Material Resources created last November on the basis of six ministries will cease to exist.

Last fall and winter and early this spring, when everyone was concerned about barter, the department now about to be abolished operated in a consultative and administrative capacity. Combined teams of experts and suppliers appeared in regions and sectors experiencing supply problems and, analyzing the situation, tried to organize direct economic ties or link them up. They managed to solve a number of problems in the electrical engineering industry, metallurgy, the chemical industry, the far north, and other regions. If their actions were opposed by the diktat of monopolists, they had to resort to tried and tested administrative measures.

The solvency crisis has taken this consultative and administrative system out of the game.

It is proposed that the federal contract corporations "Roskontrakt" and "Khleboprodukt," to be formed after the ministry's abolition, will primarily give state support to supplies of resources for commodity producers, foodstuffs, and consumer goods. The recipients of these supplies will be decided by the government in line with the law on state needs. Experts in the soon to be defunct ministry believe that they will probably be poverty-stricken sectors, the far north, the Army, communications with CIS countries, and also transport, communications, and the fuel and energy complex. These two federal contract corporations, which will maybe subsequently be joined by similar corporations in agricultural supply, nuclear power, and other spheres, are to be organized as joint-stock companies, where 100 percent of the capital belongs to the state. In the time they have "free" from direct state needs, these corporations intend to set up supply links on a commercial basis. This year, they will take no more than 1 percent of the value of the supply contract—after delivery.

Critics of the proposed system believe that it is simply a modified form of state monopoly in the supply sphere, because 30-40 percent of all production resource supplies will pass through it. Stanislav Anisimov, minister of the Russian Ministry of Trade and Material Resources to be abolished in a month's time, believes that a sharper cut in regulation will destabilize production. In a conversation with your IZVESTIYA correspondent, he said that a supply services market is springing up and that trade centers, concerns, and individual exchanges will compete with organizations in the federal contract system in this field. According to him, two-thirds of the people who used to work in the USSR State Committee for Material and Technical Supply and some of the other old supply organizations are now working in these structures. He added that the proposal to abolish the ministry had come from within the ministry itself in May, when they became totally convinced that the administrative system had run its course—the ruble had begun to work.

Russian National Unity Head Interviewed

MK0409131792 Moscow RUSSKOYE VOSKRESENIYE in Russian No. 1 (9), 1992

[Interview with A.P. Barkashev, head of Russian National Unity organization, with unidentified journalist; place and date not given: "For Russian National Unity"]

[Text] "Russian National Unity." This is the name of the organization headed by A.P. Barkashev, an eminent figure in the patriotic movement.

[RUSSKOYE VOSKRESENIYE] Aleksander Petrovich, please tell us how and when your organization was created.

[Barkashev] The founding conference was held in September 1990. I was elected chairman at it. The most active part of the "Pamyat" people's front became the nucleus for "Russian National Unity."

[RUSSKOYE VOSKRESENIYE] Why did you renounce the name "Pamyat"?

[Barkashev] We decided that we'd had enough of indulging in reminiscences. It was time to act.

[RUSSKOYE VOSKRESENIYE] Do you see a way out of the crisis in which our Homeland has found itself?

[Barkashev] Yes. We have a specific program. In order to pull the country out of the current difficult position, its leaders must truly want this. And the current ones are exacerbating the crisis in every way, which is confirmed by all the actions taken by them, and mainly by the methods of implementing these actions. We see our task as being to exert a stabilizing influence on the political and economic situation in the country and to create the

preconditions for our people's creative work. And collective reason will work out the best forms of the future political and economic structure. This is how we mainly differ from many other movements, which devise types of political-economic projects in their narrow circles and then call on the people to carry them out.

[RUSSKOYE VOSKRESENIYE] With which of our leaders do you sympathize more, M.S. Gorbachev or B.N. Yeltsin?

[Barkashev] I do not see a great difference between them. Their argument reminds me of a duet of popular artists such as Ilchenko and Kartsev. Only their interludes [intermedii] are not played out on the theater platform, but on the political stage of Russia. While a dialogue between comedians brings laughter to the hall, an "argument" between politicians can lead to bloodshed.

[RUSSKOYE VOSKRESENIYE] Can a replacement for our leaders be found?

[Barkashev] In my opinion, there is already a sufficient number of literate and educated people in Rus who do not urinate on an airplane chassis in the presence of worldly American ladies, who place their stress correctly, who do not use the word "lozhit" [as transliterated], and also know elementary arithmetic. At least, having increased pay by 40 percent, they will not raise prices by a factor of three.

[RUSSKOYE VOSKRESENIYE] Yes, I remember (they showed it on television) how our luminous academician-economist added up votes in the Supreme Soviet elections and came up with seven plus five equal to... 13.

[Barkashev] And another academician, a humanitarian, persistently says "kazhnyy" [possibly a mispronunciation of "every"] and, it seems, "pinzhak" [possibly "jacket"]. And he works under a "Russian"?

[RUSSKOYE VOSKRESENIYE] By the way, about the Russians. You are a cofounder of the All-State Russian Antidefamation Agency "OGRADA." Why was it created?

[Barkashev] "Antidefamation" means that it defends against slander. The mass media which in Russia is (however strange this sounds) in non-Russian hands, is engaged in slandering the Russian people, which often is a cause of anti-Russian extremism.

[RUSSKOYE VOSKRESENIYE] How do you defend Russians?

[Barkashev] By all means that we have at our disposal.

[RUSSKOYE VOSKRESENIYE] What else is the Russian National Union doing?

[Barkashev] We conduct patriotic propaganda and agitation directed at preserving national and state unity and awakening the Russian national consciousness, do patriotic work with young people, participate in preparations for the Slavic Assembly [Slavyanskiy Sobor] and intend in the long term to convene a Russian national Assembly.

[RUSSKOYE VOSKRESENIYE] How can people find you if they wish to help you?

[Barkashev] In Moscow, they can telephone 401-05-26, or 360-56-42, or 188-91-23. Or they can write to the postal adress "OGRADA": 125252 Moscow, A/Ya 590.

Yanayev Attorney Targeted by Bomber

PM0409141192 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Sep 92 p 1

[Aleksandr Golovenko report under "Brief and Clear" rubric: "Bombs for Attorney"]

[Text] In connection with the fact that G. Yanayev, former vice president of the USSR, has assumed all responsibility for the actions of the State Committee for the State of Emergency, increased demands must be made of his defense. This was why the presidium of the Moscow City Collegium entrusted Abdulla Khamzayev, one of its most qualified specialists, with participating in the case. He agreed.

It is hardly a coincidence that two explosive devices were placed in his family home in Chechniya, to where Abdulla Mayerbekovich was intending to travel. Only chance saved Khamzayev from death. Who needs the attorney's death? Unfortunately, the competent organs are still investigating this. Do some people really not stop even at such methods to delay the court trial?...

Military Issues

Internal Troops Transferred to Caucasus Regions

LD0709193592 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1222 GMT 7 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Gondusov]

[Text] Moscow, 7 September—About 10 special motorized militia battalions of the Russian Internal Troops from the Volga valley and central oblasts of the country have been transferred to the Caucasus regions of the Russian Federation. The ITAR-TASS correspondent learned this from well-informed sources.

One of the reasons for the redeployment of the Internal Troop subunits is to ensure the safety of the population of the southern regions of the Russian Federation in light of the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict and the possible appearance of armed irregulars in these regions.

A number of leaders of southern oblasts and republics of Russia put forward the initiative of involving the Internal Troops in ensuring public safety at the recent talks in Moscow.

Grachev Speaks on Social Protection Issues

PM0809082992 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Sep 92 p 3

[Report by Lieutenant Colonel Oleg Adamtsevich: "In the Army Everything, Including the Level of Social Protection for Servicemen, Is Determined by Order and Discipline"]

[Text] A working meeting between Russian defense minister, Army General P. Grachev, and the command staff, professors, lecturers, workers, and employees of the V. Kuybyshev Military Engineering Academy on questions concerning social provision for servicemen and the members of their families was held at the academy on 31 August. Leaders of the Defense Ministry, chiefs of other military academies, and representatives of Moscow Garrison units and subunits attended the meeting.

The defense minister observed that, despite the large number of legislative acts passed by the Russian Government, many questions relating to servicemen's social protection are still outstanding. Certain commanders and chiefs who are reluctant to deal properly with pressing problems affecting servicemen are sometimes to blame here.

Dwelling on the ubiquitous phenomenon of commercial activity, Army General Grachev demanded that commanders and chiefs at all levels clear military units and subunits of commercial structures. The premises, ranges, training grounds, buildings, and other structures allocated to the Armed Forces are intended not for the development of private enterprise but for the professional training of personnel, and their use for any other purpose is impermissible. The army community, in the shape of the officers' assemblies of individual units, regiments, divisions, schools, and academies, has an important role to play here.

Regarding servicemen's difficult material situation, the defense minister deemed it impermissible that officers sometimes tolerate injustice in the allocation of housing, food, everyday goods, dacha plots, and allotments. Rumors about mythical "Defense Ministry reserves," which do not actually exist, often circulate among servicemen. That misleads people, creates uncertainty about the fair solution of social issues, has a demoralizing effect on the Army, and undermines the essence of the reforms being carried out in it. For the purpose of regulating the allocation of housing the defense minister has ordered that a commission comprising representatives of different military units and military training institutions be set up in the Defense Ministry Main Housing and Quarters Management Directorate [GlavKEU] and has demanded that the practice of allocating plots of land according to job position cease.

It was especially stressed at the meeting that the solution of complex social questions crucially depends on the selection and placement of cadres. The criteria for appointment to leading positions should henceforth be the ability, professionalism, intellect, purposefulness, and initiative of generals and other officers, rather than favoritism based on personal loyalty to superior officers. The time has come for intelligent, dynamic, and determined people, people whom the Russian Army sorely needs during its formation and reforms.

The Army, as an instrument of state power, should lie outside the political struggle and should protect the interests of the people, the Constitution, and the lawfully elected president. Therefore any activity by servicemen in public organizations defending not just social but political interests is impermissible.

Gaydar Gives Defense Industry R13.6 Billion

LD0709093192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0903 GMT 7 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Ivan Ivanov]

[Text] Moscow, 7 Sep—The Russian Government has decided to allocate 13.6 billion rubles [R] from the republican budget in 1992 to subsidize the defense industry.

The decision signed by Yegor Gaydar, acting head of the Russian Government, points out that these funds will be used to subsidize "remuneration of employees of enterprises and organizations, including scientific research institutes and design bureaus, engaged in carrying out the state order for the development and purchasing of arms and military equipment and meeting the needs of defense and security in 1992." The document also notes that this measure is being taken "with the aim of maintaining the scientific and technical, production, and staff potential of enterprises and organizations carrying out the state order for the development and purchasing of arms and military equipment and meeting the needs of defense and security."

Tells Ministries To Make Lists

OW0709211192 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1815 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Acting Prime Minister of the Russian Federation Yegor Gaydar has asked the Finance Ministry to give 13.6 billion rubles in wage subsidies to the military-industrial complex in 1992.

Besides, he ordered the Industry Ministry and Nuclear Ministry to draw up within ten days a list of enterprises and organizations employed in the development, production and supply of defence products and the rules and terms on which the subsidies will be paid starting from September 1 1992.

The instruction says the measures are taken in order to preserve the scientific-research, industrial and personnel potential.

Defense Industry Needs Foreign Investment

LD0709202392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1549 GMT 7 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Din Inamov]

[Text] Moscow September 7 TASS—Russian defence industry undergoing conversion has to look for foreign investments as the government can earmark only a half of the necessary finances, a senior official from the Ministry of Economy said on Monday [7 September].

Conversion programme needs additional 100 billion roubles plus 60 billion roubles to compensate for the losses of enterprises sustained due to a decreased number of military orders and to maintain defence infrastructure, Yuriy Glybin, head of the Defence Industry and Conversion Department of the Russian Ministry of Industry said at a conference "Conversion and International Cooperation".

The Russian Government has only half of the sum and the Ministry of Industry has worked out a draft programme which will help defence enterprises look for foreign investors and implement joint conversion projects. It includes the creation of a market infrastructure, state management of the defence industry in market conditions, a new mechanism of taxation and crediting and of material supplies, Glybin said.

Russian defence enterprises turn out 80 per cent of all military products in the Commonwealth. In 1992 state orders for weapons and hardware decreased by 29 per cent, research appropriations—by 22 per cent. The number of enterprises which initiated conversion increased from 330 to 460 last year. 300 thousand employees were dismissed because of redundancy in 1991. This year the figure may grow up to 1.5 million people. The average profitability of the defence industry dropped from 16.9 to 13.6 per cent in the last two years, according to Glybin.

Economic Issues

National Bank To Raise Capital Limits for Banks

OW0509131592 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1234 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Concerned about the looming bankruptcy of small commercial banks, the Central Bank of Russia intends to oblige commercial banks to increase their capitals to 100 million roubles, the Central Bank's Vice-Chairman Dmitriy Tulin told IF [INTERFAX]. He said that commercial banks will be allotted at least 6 months to fulfil the Central Bank's demand thus strengthening their financial position.

At the end of August, the Bank of Russia announced that it will not register commercial banks if the worth of their starting capital and reserves is less than 100 million roubles. Earlier, the minimal worth of the starting capital amounted to 5 million roubles for the banks of closed joint-stock companies, and 25 million roubles—for the banks of open joint-stock companies.

Tulin noted that the Central Bank's measures are forced because the galloping inflation in 1992 does not allow small banks either to extend normal financial services to their clients, or to guarantee the safety of the clients' deposits. Besides that, some of the small commercial banks are incapable of crediting industrial and agricultural enterprises.

"Banks with a capital worth less than 100 million roubles are unviable," said Dmitriy Tulin.

Fixed Capital Revaluation Decree Viewed

PM0409094592 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Sep 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Report by Mikhail Berger: "Revaluation of State Property"]

[Text] The Russian Government has decided to revalue its fixed capital, which will increase its cost by an average of 20 times and more.

The decree says that all enterprises and organizations of the Russian Federation, irrespective of forms of ownership, must revalue their capital. And this must be done by 1 October, that is immediately. The preamble says that this is being done to bring the enterprises' book cost into line with present prices. The State Committee for Statistics is receiving 15 million rubles [R] from the government reserve to carry out the revaluation.

The Russian Ministry of the Economy, Ministry of Finance, and the State Committee for Statistics suggest a procedure for the revaluation. It provides guidelines for recalculating the book cost of fixed capital. Here are a few of them. Buildings and uncompleted structures acquired before the beginning of last year must increase 25 times in cost. That is, if the book cost of a shop was R10 million rubles, its new cost is R0.25 billion. Machinery and equipment for nonferrous metallurgy and the chemical industry and railroad rolling stock should show the biggest increase in cost—by a factor of 46. But automated machine tool lines and printing equipment are revalued by a factor of just 4.5. For the majority of other types of property the increase will be by a factor of 36. If assets were acquired last year then they should increase in cost by an average of half as much.

The motives of the Ministry of the Economy, the Ministry of Finance, and the main compilers of these documents are cited in the documents themselves: creating conditions for obtaining money for production renovation, which is taking place at the new prices and requires a different order of figures in calculating depreciation allotments, and forming an economically substantiated initial base for valuing property.

But the first question that arises in connection with the decision to revalue capital is how this operation will affect the purchasing power of privatization vouchers. After all, if an enterprise with a book cost of R50 million will now be worth R1 billion, then R10,000 will only be enough to buy a door. If that is so, then it will mean the failure not only of the entire "voucherization" system of privatization but also of the entire economic policy of the present leadership, which in that case will be directly associated with deception.

The decree contains a point which in part elucidates this question. The determination of the size of the corporation capital or starting price of an enterprise when it is being sold at auction and also the establishment of benefits for workers during privatization are undertaken without reference to revaluation. This means that the head of the State Committee for the Management of State Property is right and a voucher is indeed worth 10,000 in "old rubles" and its purchasing power could be many times more than R10,000. But the decree says that the establishment of benefits for workers without reference to revaluation concerns privatization carried out in 1992. But is to be done by those who do not manage to be privatized by 31 December or do not come under the privatization for reasons that do not depend on them? Will their vouchers, which are valid to the end of the next year, be worth only kopeks in the new prices correlation?

Representatives of the State Committee for the Management of State Property promise to achieve an extension of the procedure established today to 1993 as well. But where are the guarantees they will succeed? Incidentally, the initial version of the decree completely lacked a point safeguarding the purchasing power of the voucher this year. Probably the Ministry of the Economy, with an efficiency of a purely state planning nature, decided not to pay any attention to trifles like privatization. Or, conversely, old-style specialists decided to make property unattainably expensive and consequently render its purchase from the state impossible. It is curious that revaluation is also being required of the owners of private enterprises, who could if they wanted sell their entire firm for a song or exchange it for something else as they see fit.

We can be reassured in part by the fact that the decree is hardly likely to be fulfilled properly or on time. The local administrations and enterprise leaders are already snowed under with work on privatization and the compilation of lists for the receipt of vouchers, and now they are supposed to carry out revaluation, and immediately at that. But the difficulty of fulfilling ill-considered decisions is a poor basis for maintaining trust in the reforms that are being carried out.

Securities Management Service To Be Set Up

LD0309185292 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1211 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Text] Moscow September 3 TASS—The Russian Savings Bank (Sberbank) will set up for the first time ever in Russia a securities management service, Bank Vice President Anatoliy Barabash said in an interview with the Moscow weekly BUSINESS AND BANKS.

The new service called by specialists a trust service is sorely needed because "people in Russia, who grew in totally different economic conditions, do not have the slightest idea about securities and how to gain revenue from them," Barabash said.

The residents of the republic will receive privatisation vouchers, the handout of which will begin in Russia on October 1, in the savings bank branches.

Barabash said Sberbank regards the protection of the population's deposits as its main task. "If commercial banks can define themselves measures to protect deposits, we cannot do it with our own forces because we constantly need state support," Barabash noted.

Central Bank Unlikely To Intervene on Currency

PM0309154992 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Sep 92 Morning Edition p 1

[Report by Mikhail Berger: "Central Bank Deputy Chief Fuels Panic On Market"]

[Text] Today, the day of the latest auction, RIA put out a statement by Aleksandr Khandruyev, deputy chairman of the Central Bank of Russia [CBR], describing as a hasty and ill-judged step the decision by the predecessors of Gerashchenko's team at the CBR to tie the official rate to the currency market rate. He also mentioned the possible introduction of a mean exchange rate based on market auction results over one-two months. A. Khandruyev also let it be known, RIA reports, that major currency interventions in the market by the CBR are not to be expected in the immediate future.

If the first part of the statement holds no surprises and reflects the position of the new CBR leadership, which has been expressed before directly or indirectly, the second part caused some bewilderment. Certainly one can assume that, due to the lack of hard currency, the CBR will not be selling large sums at auctions in the immediate future, but that would only be an assumption. When an official promises that the CBR will not be selling significant amounts of hard currency, what is it, if not a disclosure of commercial information? This information is a very clear signal to all participants in the market to buy up hard currency, whatever the value of the dollar in rubles. All this is going to do is fuel panic on the market and finish off the ruble.

There is another reason for bewilderment. Recently the World Bank announced its decision to grant Russia credit of $600 million. Some $250 million of this, Ardi Stoutjesdijk, World Bank director in Moscow, said, is intended for sale on the currency market. Khandruyev's words give rise to the suspicion that the CBR will receive hard currency from the World Bank but will not present it for auction. And since the CBR has hitherto kept the size of even

month-old currency interventions a complete secret, then the likelihood of this happening is very high.

Commercial Banks Refuse Private Currency Sales

OW0509132192 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1237 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] One third of all Moscow banks including the Moscow branches of the Russian Saving Bank working with foreign currency do not sell cash currency to citizens but only buy it. This fact has been revealed during a concealed verification being carried out by experts of the Central Bank of Russia, employees of the Russian Bank told "IF" [INTERFAX].

Such activity of the banks contradicts with the resolution of the acting chairman of the CBR, Viktor Gerashchenko, in accordance with which the commercial banks must not only buy but also sell currency to the population.

According to the deputy chairman of the CBR Dmitriy Tulin, the Bank of Russia intends to warn commercial banks in the near future that they may be deprived of the licence granting the right to operate with foreign currency.

Yeltsin: Currency Law Limits Government Options

OW0409035192 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1854 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] In a few days' time, a Russian parliamentary commission will consider a special memorandum from the Russian president to the Supreme Soviet explaining tne reasons for a presidential veto imposed by the head of executive power on a law on hard currency regulation.

The law, which was introduced to regulate Russian and foreign hard currency transactions, was passed by parliament at the second reading in July and was to have been brought into effect after being signed by the president.

The president's memorandum says that the law grants the Central Bank virtually "unlimited power in hard currency regulation," leaving the president the right to regulate only "aspects of private hard currency conversion."

The step taken by the president was, according to information received by IF [INTERFAX], influenced by objections from some Russian governmental structures which insisted on extending the rights of Russian and overseas enterpreneurs concerning hard currency transactions.

According to Russian legislation, if, during the course of secondary hearings, parliament declines a presidential veto, the law must be signed within a three-month period.

Shokhin Signs Government Decree on Re-exports

MK0409132192 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 3 Sep 92 p 4

[Ivan Zasurskiy report under "Business Information" rubric: "Decree on Reexport"]

[Text] On 27 August of this year, Aleksandr Shokhin signed a Russian Federation Government decree "On the Mechanism for Regulating the Reexport of Russian Goods."

The decree gives the Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations [MVES] the authority to permit reexport.

The government's decree relies upon article 10 of the agreement on settling mutual relations between the Commonwealth states according to the treaty concluded on 14 February.

A number of ministries and departments were instructed to elaborate a procedure for allowing reexport within a month.

It is still not clear whether Shokhin has decided to study this problem seriously and whether this question will somehow be settled—if only on paper, in that regulation of reexport de facto in the CIS is simply impossible for a number of extremely sound reasons. Among these are the decentralization of customs statistics, the transparency of the customs border, and a great enthusiasm for exports with regard to the new commercial structures. By way of an example, a loophole for Russian goods may be seen to occur under the Republic of Belarus legislation, which guarantees a joint enterprise with a fixed foreign capital participation a nonlicensed means to export.

Gaydar on Plans To Increase Fuel Prices

PM0809104792 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 5 Sep 92 p 1

[Interview with Acting Premier Yegor Gaydar by Ye. Anisimov on 4 September; place not given: "Yegor Gaydar: Gasoline Prices Will Go Up. But When and By How Much Is a Military Secret"]

[Text] The article headlined "Rumors of Gasoline Price Increase Exaggerated. To What Extent?", which appeared 3 September, prompted yesterday's meeting between your correspondent and Yegor Gaydar, and the aim of our conversation was to clarify the government's policy in the sphere of pricing.

[Gaydar] There are several topics on which I am often asked questions, thereby placing me in an awkward position. I am asked particularly often whether there will be a monetary reform and whether gasoline will go up in price. I firmly and frankly state that there will be no monetary reform, but that prices of gasoline and energy sources in general will go up. But if I did want to carry out monetary reform, I would be forced all the same to say that the government had no such plans, otherwise

there would be a very severe monetary crisis. Or suppose I say that gasoline prices will be raised by so much on such-and-such a date. The only result will be that gasoline will instantly disappear.

[Anisimov] You have denied the rumors that gasoline will cost a certain price as of 1 November. The figures of 28 rubles [R] per liter of A-76 and R37 per liter of AI-93 have most often been cited. While denying the rumors, you also said that the government is drawing up a price policy with regard to energy sources...

[Gaydar] Of course, fuel prices will gradually increase until they reach the world level. But as of today there are no new price lists for gasoline. We will bring prices up to the world level over two or three years rather than as a result of one-shot, shock increases. A Law on Mineral Resources has been adopted, it is necessary to introduce an excise duty for land use—this will naturally affect the cost of fuel. You see, grain and metal now cost almost as much in our country as they do worldwide, and consequently the increase in the cost of fuel will have virtually no effect on them. When we introduced an almost sixfold increase in the price of petroleum in May, this did not produce catastrophic consequences. The main thing now is to avoid explosions in the economy. We cannot free prices of energy sources at a stroke, as Poland and Czechoslovakia did—they had no option, while we do; we simply must use other methods, otherwise the economy won't hold up.

[Anisimov] Could the rumors about coming price hikes not have been inspired by mafia, semimafia, and other structures who send out "kids with jerricans" to join the gas station lines?

[Gaydar] Yes, that is of course perfectly possible. Rumors are often inspired by those who speculate on the dynamics of demand. This applies not just to fuel prices, but also, say, to the swings in the currency exchange rate. Our population has not gotten used yet to viewing information the way they do in the West, where everyone appreciates that a rumor may be deliberately spread in order to secure the maximum gain.

[Anisimov] The increase in fuel prices and the abandonment of coupons will inevitably whip up inflation and further weaken the ruble's position against the dollar, which is already not very attractive. Does the government plan to take any measures to strengthen the ruble?

[Gaydar] The current ruble exchange rate against the dollar is completely out of line with its actual purchasing power. The swings in the rate reflect the government's swings and are the result of the concessions we have been forced to make. The domestic potential for stabilization of the ruble is quite great, everything depends on how stabilization on the macroeconomic level proceeds. We will of course be working with the Central Bank of Russia to strengthen the ruble.

[Anisimov] So the positions of the government and the Central Bank coincide?

[Gaydar] We have certain disagreements about details. But there is a common interest in the ruble as a strong currency, and that's the main thing.

State Committee Reviews Price Rises in Industry

LD0509134392 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1400 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] According to the Russian State Committee on Prices, the increase in real terms of prices in connection with their liberalization has exceeded the calculated level considerably. This was reported today at a session of the Russian tripartite commission on the regulation of social and labor relations. Over the seven months of this year, prices have risen in the main sectors of industry by more than 15 times, and by even more in the ferrous metallurgy sector. Consumer prices have increased by almost 13 times. However, the State Committee on Prices believes that of late the increase in the price index for industry and the consumer market has been restrained.

Prices Rise Faster Than Forecast

PM0809100192 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1700 GMT 4 Sep 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast: Announcer-read report over video]

[Text] Now about prices and privatization in Russia.

The republic State Committee for Prices announced today that price increases following the price liberalization have considerably exceeded forecasts. According to the official figures, prices in key sectors of Russian industry have risen 1,470 percent over the first seven months of the current year. But prices for railroad transport, for example, have increased 2,400 percent.

Consumer prices in June 1992 were 1,170 percent up on the same month last year.

The State Committee is hoping, however, that price adjustments will slow down in the next few months.

Moscow Commodities Exchange Prices Still Rising

PM0809083992 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Sep 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Report by Mikahil Glazychev and Aleksandr Yakovlev of the Moscow Commodities Exchange, carried under the general heading "Price Rises Within the Past Week, and Compared With the End of July"]

[Text] The growth of prices on the Moscow Commodities Exchange [MCE] continues to acquire an increasingly protracted character. In the last week of August the MCE prices index increased by 1 percent, maintaining its rate of growth, and the range of goods on which a fall in prices was recorded declined.

The week saw price falls for only seven of the 45 sample commodities, while the rest experienced slow, rather even growth, or at best, remained stable at the level already reached.

Increases in exchange prices for agricultural produce are outstripping increases on other commodities. Over the week prices for agricultural produce rose by 3 percent, and they have already grown by one-third against the level of the beginning of July.

The MCE registered negligible growth in supply following the publication of the resolution on increasing grain purchase prices. Maximum supply prices for (valuable) soft wheat third class as of 20 August were 18,500 rubles [R] per tonne; for durum grades of wheat they were R23,000, for brewing barley—R18,000, and for regular barley they were R14,500 per tonne, which is roughly 20-30 percent higher than the state purchase prices (including value added tax).

Commission on Price Rises, Social Protection

LD0509120692 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1700 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Video report by S. Suntsov, with recorded remarks by I. Ye. Klochkov, chairman of the Federation of Independent Trade Unions, and Deputy Prime Minister Anatoliy Chubays; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Excerpts] Prices and measures for social protection of citizens is one of the acute issues on the agenda of the commission in which representatives of the government, entrepreneurs, administration, and trade unions are participating. As has been stated, as of today the government has made no decisions on sharp price rises. It is preserving subsidies. However, increased procurement prices for foodstuffs will have its effect on the consumer market. The trade unions made a proposal on measures for the social protection of citizens. A new presidential decree on the social security fund, which in the past was under trade union jurisdiction and now is handed over to the government, caused the trade unions' protest.

[Klochkov] We are categorically against it. We regard it as an offensive against the interests of working people and we will not allow that part of this money to be taken away from them and sent to mend holes in the budget. There are plenty of those, of course. [passage omitted]

[Chubays] Today for the first time during our discussion there has been a qualitative improvement—an improvement which expressed itself in the fact that it was decided to support practical actions by the governmnet on privatization.

Prices Up 1.22 Percent in August

PM0409144992 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 2 Sep 92 First Edition p 3

[Gennadiy Bortsov report under the "Last Week's Prices" rubric: "You Will Not Watch Television, But You Will Chew Onions"]

[Text] According to data of the State Committee for Statistics, retail prices in trade increased by an average of 1.22 percent during the penultimate week of August.

The change in prices during the week for consolidated groups of commodities is as follows:

Sewn goods down 0.5 percent.

Knitwear up 1.41 percent.

Footwear up 1.75 percent.

Electrical goods up 0.37 percent.

Domestic fuel up 0.35 percent.

Meat and meat products up 1.66 percent.

Dairy products and cheese up 1.29 percent.

Bread and flour products up 2.30 percent.

Vegetables and potatoes down 2.14 percent.

There was virtually no change in the prices of men's pants, shirts, suits made of half-woolen fabrics, other types of clothes, and domestic fuel (coal, firewood, peat briquettes). There was some increase in the prices of children's socks, pantyhose, and summer shoes for girls—by an average of 3-6 percent.

Even if we have not become accustomed to free prices for foodstuffs, they have at any rate ceased to boggle the mind. Things are worse with domestic industrial goods, particularly durables. They are simply beyond the reach of many citizens. Nevertheless, the limited demand does not halt the growth in prices for certain types of such goods. For example, during the period of 18-25 August alone, the average price of color television sets with a 61 cm screen increased from 19,300 to 20,000 rubles. An increase, on the whole, of 7.5 percent during the last days of August.

Disruptions persist in trade in individual types of industrial goods. There was an absence of television sets in 52 percent of the cities where statistical organs monitor the change in prices every week. Russian-style cigarettes were missing in 79 percent of the cities, and other cigarettes in 61 percent.

Government Hopes To Limit Food Price Increases

OW0409175492 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1608 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] IF [INTERFAX] has been informed by Russian Economics Minister Andrey Nechayev that the government hopes to keep price increases for consumer goods and especially foodstuffs down to around 1-1.5% per week. Taking into account a possible threefold energy price increase, overall price increases would hit 40 per cent, Nechayev pointed out. However, he calculated that January's soaring prices would not be repeated since the cost of gas and oil had practically reached its maximum limit, if enterprises will be able to meet these costs. In addition, the government has taken preventative measures in imposing restrictions on enterprise monopolies and intends to continue to centralise subsidies for the transport sector in order to maintain regulated tariffs, especially for rail freight. The minister admitted that the 50 per cent fuel subsidies already introduced for the aviation sector had not covered losses. Therefore, in 1993, Nechayev said, tariffs for air freight would be lowered.

In the minister's opinion, by far the most significant factor for possible future inflation lies not in the restrictions in increasing energy prices but in new bread and grain prices. He said that production costs would, because of this, increase by a minimum one and a half times and towards the end of the year the increase in prices for foodstuffs would be a minimum one and a half per cent per week. Nevertheless, the government calculates that on the whole it will be able to limit price increases to 10 per cent per month.

Nechayev pointed out that the unpredictable price rises could only be checked by restricting credit emission which the government intends to secure from the Central Bank.

Machine Tool Industry's Problems Viewed

PM0809091792 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 0500 GMT 3 Sep 92

[Video report by A. Krutov and I. Bolotnikov; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] Industrial production continues to decline in Russia. The situation in machine-tool building is causing particular concern among specialists.

[Krutov over video of almost deserted production facilities followed by crates of machine tools ready for dispatch] People at the plant were eagerly waiting for the fall. But it has made no difference to the collective's life. Rejections of orders for machine tools produced under previously concluded contracts continue to arrive. Wages stand at just over 2,500 rubles. The plant management is trying to cope as best it can. It is trying to find work for people. Instead of high-precision machine tools they are now making timber-cutting machines. These machines are needed, but what kind of work is this for a highly skilled specialist like Aleksey Akimovich Vaskin, whom everybody calls "professor" and whom scientists come to consult.

[Yu.A. Kucherin, foreman] Not everyone realizes what this means for the future. They lead a hand-to-mouth existence, trying to sell matches, vodka, cigarettes... But the day may come when industry grinds to a halt. Machine tools are constantly aging and getting worn. They have to be renewed, or at least maintained.

[Krutov] Yet even right now the Astrakhan, Sarana, and Salsk machine tool plants are working a 5-hour day. The Sterlitamak and Leningrad plants have been forced to send all their workers on vacation. And at the Chita and Khabarovsk plants production has stopped completely.

People, highly skilled people, are leaving. Yet another expert machine tool operator left the plant today. He found well-paid work as a janitor. He takes the view that since there is no proper work, he might as well work as a sweeper.

But what future is there for these guys, in that case? [video shows group of young apprentices] They have chosen the slide gauge, they have chosen constructive work in preference to peddling foreign junk at a street market. But who will teach them the necessary skills?

[A.V. Mandrovskiy, plant director] What we have is a total confusion of laws. What we have is an anarchic situation. Strict order is what is needed most of all. It is necessary to have a financial policy, to have a precise payment schedule, to have long-term plans for the future, for retooling, for plant development. None of this is possible at the moment.

[Krutov] In capitalist countries the machine tool industry as the basis of progress and national economic development always has the protection and support of the government. Does this mean that Russia no longer needs Aleksey Akimovich Vaskin's skilled hands?

Agricultural Issues

13 Million Tonnes Grain Delivered by Start of Sep

LD0609165592 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0725 GMT 6 Sep 92

[Text] In the Russian Federation as a whole, no more than 13 million tonnes of grain were delivered to the state as of the start of September—less than half that is required for food purposes.

Media Issues

Gaydar on Planned KOMMERSANT Daily

MK0809103392 Moscow KOMMERSANT in Russian No 35, 24-31 Aug 92 p 3

[Untitled editorial office feature—first paragraph is introduction]

[Excerpts] Following the publication in the last issue of KOMMERSANT of a "conceptual outline" for KOMMERSANT-DAILY, KOMMERSANT's correspondents sought the views of a number of newsmakers on how they would react to the idea of a thick daily newspaper, and what they think of the functions it should carry out. [passage omitted]

[Gaydar] Without any doubt, there is a colossal amount of information that I lack. For instance, there is a constant shortage of good deflationary devices [deflyatory]. In all honesty, the weakest aspect of the newspaper KOMMERSANT—which I like very much—is the method of calculating inflation. It has to be said frankly that it is a very vulnerable method and it is very difficult to make practical use of it.

Without any doubt there is a great shortage of normal financial information. You know, essentially there is still no system of national accounting [natsionalnyye schety], and it will take time to create one—particularly against the background of the fact that for a whole range of reasons the Union Goskomstat [State Committee for Statistics] proved incapable of this. Of course, there is a dire shortage of normal social budget statistics—it is quite impossible to make use of our budgets. In general terms, I could talk at length about the information I lack.

If you are talking about newspapers, then I think that a daily KOMMERSANT would by no means be too much. I always looked at KOMMERSANT when it was a weekly, and I reckon I'll look at it when it becomes a daily. [passage omitted]

'Pravda International' Company Formed

PM0209150992 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Sep 92 p 1

[Article by Gennadiy Seleznev, chief editor of PRAVDA and vice president of the "Pravda International" Joint Stock Company: "Please Meet 'Pravda International'"]

[Text] What do you think, dear reader, why is there such a commotion in the camps of right-wing and trashy publications about the current PRAVDA? Do you think that they are concerned about the fate of PRAVDA, about whether it will survive for long in the face of economic and legal chaos? Of course not. They have already buried us more than once. And they have gotten excited for one reason alone—that PRAVDA did not close down, it survived despite all the artificial barriers. As of today, it is starting to come out five times a week. We could be available to the reader every day, but, as we know, communications workers do not deliver newspapers on Sundays and Mondays. It is quite obvious that a big newspaper cannot be economically stable today without financial support from outside. Surviving only by increasing the price of the publication or by counting on state handouts means condemning yourself to ruin. The present economic experiments have already deprived our children of the chance of having an extra candy or ice cream, or going to a matinee at the cinema, and their parents have been forced to make unthinkable economies and give up basic things: vegetables, meat, and bread. Is there room for spiritual nourishment in such a humiliating existence?

PRAVDA's journalists' organization has found a serious partner from Greece, who is equally worried about the newspaper's fate, and it has formed the "Pravda International" Joint Stock company with him. He founded the Greek-Russian Economic and Cultural Cooperation Fund. His company "Iannikos S.A." founded a branch of the Pushkin Institute in Athens, whose aim is to help people study Russian in Greece and develop cultural relations between our countries. So there is no need to doubt the sincerity of this man's good and friendly attitude toward our people. A reputable entrepreneur, he has assumed the burden of most of the expenditure involved in producing the newspaper. When the newspaper was stopped in March, he, Iannis Iannikos said: "It is appallingly unfair to kill off the oldest publication, which is famous worldwide and—most importantly—which people need."

We have not sold ourselves to anyone and we have not betrayed anyone; we are surviving and are hoping for success in the new economic conditions imposed on our readers. Our colleagues and friends in the joint stock company are not interfering in the newspaper's politics or the content of our articles, and in that respect—the most important one for any publication—we are completely autonomous and free. PRAVDA journalists and workers have finally been given the opportunity to get rid of the constant oppression connected with payments for producing the newspaper and shed the humiliating procedures involved in begging capricious politicized bankers for credits.

Today is a joyful day for the newspaper's true friends and well-wishers and for unprejudiced and unfettered people. For malicious people it is a black day. But that is their problem. The caravan is moving on. Our business is to lay its course—the course we are pursuing together with our readers today.

Cypriot Company, Greek Buy PRAVDA

NC0409121192 Nicosia CYPRUS MAIL in English 4 Sep pp 1, 3

[Text] Cypriot company Steelite Holdings, headed by Greek businessman Yiannis Yiannikos, looks set to take over PRAVDA with a 55% stake in the erstwhile mouthpiece of the former Soviet Communist Party.

The newspaper has been struggling financially since the early days of perestroika and seen its circulation collapse from 10 million to a new all time low of 1,300,000.

"The paper is now completely independent and the state exerts no influence whatsoever on the views it holds or on what it does," said an official at the Russian Embassy in Nicosia.

"It is a public company and naturally as with other publications in the ex-Soviet Union, it is facing such difficulties as the lack of paper and capital," he said.

He added that a western businessman with the necessary money could almost certainly help it in the long run.

Veteran Cypriot politicians appeared to welcome the Greek businessman's takeover of PRAVDA, believing that it would lead to an improvement in the quality of the daily.

"The journal has always had a poor reputation," said ex-AKEL [Restorative Party of the Working People] MP Andreas Ziartidhis, now a key member of ADISOK [Democratic Socialist Renewal Movement].

"Even in my old days as an AKEL MP I often criticised PRAVDA for being a low quality paper, and it was not the kind of daily a superpower which was influencing world events should have been publishing.

"I remember that it would only devote a couple of pages to international events and instead give prominence to such things as agriculture and industry," he remarked.

For his part, AKEL deputy Andreas Philippou stressed that with the breakup of Communist Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union, huge opportunities were available to businessmen in order to exploit the new business climate.

"You cannot expect people in Russia overnight to turn into budding capitalists," he said.

"They do need some sort of help—if Yiannikos follows a correct policy then he might very well help the paper".

International Affairs

Ministry Protests to Russia Over Naval College

LD0709184892 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1740 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Text] Kiev, 7 September (UKRINFORM-TASS)—The Ukrainin Foreign Ministry today sent a note to the Russian Foreign Ministry in connection with the situation that has arisen around the Black Sea Higher Naval College in Sevastopol.

The note states that on 31 August, the commission from the Ukrainian Defense Ministry, which arrived at the college in order to set examinations and to prepare proposals for transforming the college into a navy institute under the Ukrainian Navy, encountered resistance on the part of Admiral Kasatonov, commander of the Black Sea Fleet.

The Ukrainian side cannot qualify the events as anything but a deliberate action by the commander of the Black Sea Fleet and certain forces within the leadership of the Russian Defense Ministry aimed at undermining the Yalta agreement. The note stresses that the Black Sea Higher Naval College never has been and is not part of the organizational and personnel structure of the Black Sea Fleet.

The note proposes that emergency talks be held in order to work out a mechanism for joint command of the Black Sea Fleet and to make a decision on the appointment of a new Black Sea Fleet commander.

Kasatonov on Ukrainian Action

MK0709120992 Moscow NEZAVISIM. YA GAZETA in Russian 3 Sep 92 p 3

[Report by Aleksandr Pilat: " 'I Am a Russian Admiral, and I Will Not Allow a Russian Admiral to Be Humiliated'—Black Sea Fleet Commander Igor Kasatonov States at News Conference"]

[Text] The commander described the situation in the fleet as very serious and blamed the command of the Ukrainian Black Sea Fleet for all the problems. He described the transfer of two naval schools in Sevastopol—the Black Sea Fleet Higher Naval School named for Nakhimov and the Sevastopol Higher Naval Engineering School—to the Ukrainian Defense Ministry as unlawful insofar as these schools train personnel for all Commonwealth states, and he also described the removal of Rear-Admiral Vladimir Denisenkov from his duties as chief of the Nakhimov School as invalid. "He did not take the Ukrainian oath and he is not under the jurisdiction of the Ukrainian Defense Ministry," Igor Kasatonov said. "As a Russian admiral, I have lodged a protest. I will fight for the Russian admiral. If a Russian admiral is humiliated, the Navy is humiliated. Our common cause is humiliated."

Admiral Kasatonov did not answer a question regarding whose subordination the Sevastopol naval schools will come under if, once the Russian Navy is formed, all schools on Russian Federation territory are transferred to Russia.

Igor Kasatonov also stated that the Ukrainian Defense Ministry "has a plan for penning in and localizing the Black Sea Fleet which provides for its partition through the downfall of the Black Sea Fleet."

Foreign Minister Zlenko Visits Romania for Talks

Rejects Romanian Territorial Claims

LD0509122892 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 2000 GMT 4 Sep 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Romania and Ukraine have announced that no differences exist between them on the question of borders. Former Romanian lands are now part of Ukraine. The two states, however, have decided not to raise the territorial issue.

[Begin recording] [Correspondent S. Zheleznyak] The development of diplomatic, economic, scientific, and cultural links was the focus of attention at the talks, in which the Ukrainian prime minister also took part. The situation in Yugoslavia was examined, as were joint actions for resolving the Dniester region conflict. As far as the territorial issue was concerned, discussion of this was postponed indefinitely. It is to be expected that now, at the height of the pre-electoral battle, that will provoke a negative reaction on the part of the opposition. Recently, it has been raising more and more actively, the question of the restoration of Greater Romania which included Moldova, Chernovitskaya, and part of Odessa oblast. That issue has even become part of the platform of some presidential candidates. What is Ukraine's attitude to this?

[Foreign Minister Anatoliy Zlenko] I would like to state categorically, both to our television viewers and to Romanian television viewers, that Ukraine rejects any territorial claims. In reply to your question with regard to the Greater Romanian state, I would like to say that it seems to me that this is political profiteering. Today, the facts show that the review of borders, or interference in internal affairs, is fraught with dangerous consequences. [end recording]

Agreements Signed

LD0509121592 Kiev Ukrayinske Telebachennya Television Network in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 4 Sep 92

[No video available]

[Text] Ukrainian Foreign Minister Anatoliy Zlenko has praised the results of the negotiations with Romanian leaders. The negotiations resulted in the signing of a

consular convention and an agreement on cooperation between the two countries in the area of culture, science, and education. During the negotiations the parties discussed bilateral relations, examined the draft agreement on cooperation and mutual understanding, and exchanged views on a number of international problems, including the situations in Moldova and Yugoslavia.

'Positive Results' Noted

LD0509200192 Kiev Ukrayinske Telebachennya Television Network in Ukrainian 1600 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Interview with Foreign Affairs Minister Anatoliy Maksymovych Zlenko by unidentified correspondent; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] What are the results of this visit? I see that you are in a good mood.

[Zlenko] I would like to say that, really, there is a certain amount of optimism in regards to developing our relations on a new basis. I think we achieved positive results. There is understanding and mutual desire to develop these relations. There were some issues and, it seems to me, we managed to find a compromise approach to settling them. One very complex point, which, in fact, was an obstacle to active and dynamic development of our relations, has been unblocked.

I must say that there are assurances by the president, prime minister, and the foreign minister regarding a consistent and level policy concerning future relations with Ukraine.

[Correspondent] Is the border issue an unblocked point?

[Zlenko] There are certain problems which, as you know, retarded our relations and, I would like to say, that we found a compromise. In my opinion, this knot has now been untied. We discussed possibilities for cooperation in preparing a political basis for these future relations, and a political treaty between the two countries must occupy the chief place in this political basis. In the very near future, the attention and work of experts will be focused precisely on this.

Apart from that, we think that if such a political and legal basis is created, we will be able to develop our specific contacts on the basis of various intergovernmental and inter-ministerial agreements.

Therefore, in conclusion, although one can continue, but in conclusion I would like to say that I have reasons to say that we are moving toward a new level of relations between Ukraine and Romania and, I hope, no new complications which can hold up the development of our bilateral relations will appear on this path.

Government Officially Joins Reconstruction Bank

OW0409143192 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1316 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Ukraine has been officially registered member of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development [IBRD]. The Ukrainian Finance Minister Hryhoriy Pyatachenko signed corresponding documents on Thursday [3 September] in Washington. Ukraine has become the 157th member of the IBRD. The enter fee of Ukraine to the bank's fund constitutes almost 80 million dollars.

Soviet Forces' Property Transfer Route Approved

OW0409142992 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1317 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Friday [4 September] the representatives of Ukraine, Russia, and Czechoslovakia met in an Ukrainian city of Chop where they discussed the issues of transit of the Soviet Forces' property from Germany to Russia.

The route of transit will go through Ukraine. This way is cheaper for Russia. Ukraine will receive financial compensation. Czechoslovakia will receive its share for transit - more than 2 billion crones.

Germany has allocated 1 billion marks for this operation. The agreements reached in Chop will be adopted by the governments of Ukraine, Russia, and Czechoslovakia.

Kravchuk Confirms Plans for Treaty With Russia

LD0509224992 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in English 2100 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Text] The government of Ukraine is planning to sign an agreement on friendship and cooperation with Russia at the end of October this year in compliance with the earlier achieved agreement between the two countries. This has been stated by President Leonid Kravchuk of Ukraine during his meeting with a group of Japanese journalists held last Saturday [5 September] in Kiev. According to news agency KYODO TSUSHIN, the head of the Ukrainian state expressed certainty that equal goodneighborly relations based on mutual understanding will be established between Ukraine and Russia.

In assessing the future of the Commonwealth of Independent States, Leonid Kravchuk expressed an opinion that after the solution of the existing economic and political problems the Commonwealth will be turned into an association of states of the European Community type. In the opinion of Leonid Kravchuk, the political nature of the Commonwealth will disappear soon after the final determination of borders between the republics, the solution of defense and other controversial issues. The formation of the Commonwealth of Independent

States was a temporary phenomenon aimed at ensuring a peaceful transition from the former USSR structure to complete independence of the republics. President Kravchuk also informed the journalists that the national currency unit would be put into circulation either at the end of this or beginning of the next year.

Foreign Ministry Issues Statement on FRY

LD0509162392 Kiev Ukrayinske Telebachennya Television Network in Ukrainian 1600 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] The Foreign Ministry of Ukraine has issued a statement regarding the decision of the international conference in London on the settlement of the conflict in former Yugoslavia. The declaration notes that Ukraine fully supports the method defined by the conference for settling the Yugoslav crisis.

However, there is concern in Ukraine that the latest news from Bosnia-Hercegovina, particularly Sarajevo, bears witness to the fact that combat operations between the warring sides have not yet ceased. As a consequence, peaceful people of all nationalities inhabiting the Republic, including those in the Ukrainian diaspora, are dying.

Ukrainians call for actions of force to cease immediately, including those which are provocatively directed against the UN peacekeeping forces, the staff of which, with risk to their own lives, provide humanitarian aid to the civilian population, no matter what religion or nationality they are.

Government Releases Two Belgian Aviators

LD0509101192 Brussels BRTN International in English 0900 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Text] Two Belgians who were under house arrest in the Ukraine have been released. The announcement came from the Foreign Affairs Ministry. The two will soon fly back to Belgium.

They were put under house arrest in the Ukraine after having flown over a military air base with the ULM plane. The Ukrainian authorities suspected them of espionage and the two were not allowed to leave their hotel.

The Belgians left from Namur the middle of August with the ULM plane in the direction of the Ukraine. They wanted to celebrate the end of the Cold War.

National Affairs

Fokin Holds News Conference on Economic Reform

Notes Government's Accomplishments

LD0409213192 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1700 GMT 4 Sep 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] As we know, the strike by transport workers in Ukraine has had a boomerang effect in many regions. It ended today, but Vitold Fokin's cabinet is in a difficult situation and is seeking a way out of the crisis situation which has developed.

[Correspondent V. Lyaskalo] I will resign, Ukrainian Prime Minister Vitold Fokin stated at a news conference today. I will resign only if I see that the actions of my government are harming the people and only when the president loses faith in me, he said.

In response to a question on the government's main achievement over its past two years in power, the prime minister said that the main thing was that Ukraine was living in peace and that the stabilization of the economy had become noticeable in the past few months.

Fokin considers the timely introduction of coupons to be a major success on the part of the government, making it possible to avert the collapse of the economy, since Ukraine did not received a single banknote from Russia over the year.

The prime minister expounded to journalists on the government's new plan, which outlines concrete steps for overcoming the crisis in moving toward a market economy. It is proposed, in particular, to tax the profits of an enterprise rather than the income, to reduce that tax to 20 percent, and to cut the tax on mediation in half. A special tax police will combat those who conceal their taxes [as heard].

As of 1 October, the Ukrainian Government also plans to compensate losses incurred by the population in the course of the depreciation of securities of the former USSR.

Need to 'Counteract Inflation'

LD0509152892 Kiev Ukrayinske Telebachennya Television Network in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] Ukrainian Prime Minister Vitold Pavlovych Fokin held a news conference for Ukrainian and foreign journalists today. The pivot of the discussion was the specific plan of action and measures to deepen economic reform in Ukraine elaborated by the Cabinet of Ministers. This program will be promulgated in a few days time. Here are some points defined more clearly by the prime minister:

[Begin Fokin recording] It is clear that the movement of our economy toward the market requires considerable reform of state influence on the economy. First, the restriction of budget expansion is meant here, making the tax pressure easier and, generally, fostering the appearance of normal market structures. At the same time, the government has to counteract inflation processes caused mainly by the sectoral structure of the national economy. Therefore, again, it is only possible to block or eliminate these causes by actively affecting the sectoral structure of the national economy. [end recording]

There were quite a few questions for the prime minister. Journalists were interested to know why prices went up in Kiev on 1 September, what caused the strike, and whether coupons protect the internal market of Ukraine. Exhaustive answers were given to all questions. You will be able to watch a video report on the prime minister's news conference on channel 1 of Ukrainian television at 2140 this evening.

Notes Plan to Speed Up Transition

LD0509180892 Kiev Ukrayinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 0500 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Excerpts] Ukrainian Prime Minister Vitold Fokin held a news conference in Kiev on 4 September for Ukrainian and foreign journalists to analyze the state of the economy and the recent activities of the government. Fokin stressed, in particular, that the rate of decline in production in Ukraine has slowed somewhat over the past seven months. This could be considered a sign of the transition to some stability. It was also noted that there has been an increase in the output of individual types of products and consumer goods.

The prime minister told reporters that his government is concluding work on a plan of practical actions and measures to speed up the transition to a market economy. In general the plan envisions a dynamic process of privatization and demonopolization, a reform of the management of state ownership, the introduction of currency reform, radical changes in budget policy, efforts to activate foreign economic participation, and measures to support entrepreneurship.

Considerable attention was given to reforms in the area of taxation. In particular, in the future it is proposed to considerably reduce the value-added tax as well as the tax on intermediary activity. It is also necessary to increase responsibility for tax evasion. The prime minister proposed the creation of a tax police. [passage omitted]

In the opinion of the prime minister, the present composition of the cabinet of ministers completely corresponds to the principle of a government of national accord since the cabinet contains a considerable number of representatives of democratic views and convictions.

Deputy Predicts 'Stormy' Supreme Council Sessions

LD0509212892 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1900 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] The regular session of the Supreme Council of Ukraine will begin on 15 September. What will it be like? This is of interest to many people at the present time. Our correspondent Ihor Bad invited Bohdan Horyn, people's deputy of Ukraine and deputy head of the Ukrainian Supreme Council's permanent commission on foreign affairs, to the microphone:

[Begin recording] [Horyn] I consider that the (?next) session, which according to the announcement will begin its work on 15 September, will be very stormy. Possibly it will be a stormy week, or possibly a stormy month, possibly a stormy fall. This is because very important issues will be discussed at the session. First of all, the draft of the new constitution will be discussed and various deputies, various factions of the Supreme Council, various political parties represented in the Supreme Council, have their own opinions on this matter. I think the battle will be very acute. This is the first thing.

Second, as today's events testify—including those connected with the strike—the issue concerning the government of the country will be a critical one. How are we to be in the future, because public opinion at this time is inclined toward a common conclusion that many of our misfortunes, particularly in the economic situation, are mainly the fault of the Cabinet of Ministers.

[Bad] What do you personally think about this?

[Horyn] I consider that many of our misfortunes were left over from the times of the Soviet empire and that it is very difficult to get rid of these misfortunes in the one year existence of the young Ukrainian state. I am not sure that a new premier, regardless of how much of a genius he might be, would be able to remove all these misfortunes from our shoulders so quickly.

[Bad] Above all, which issues would you personally like to see discussed by the Supreme Council?

[Horyn] I cannot talk about my personal likings, what I would like, because every commission is interested in seeing that every issue which it prepares and to which it is directly related is examined. Just today we held a meeting of the Commission of Foreign Affairs where we discussed our readiness to submit for consideration by the Supreme Council our draft laws prepared by the commission including the draft law on free economic zones.

The next document which the commission will be working on will be the draft law on international treaties. We consider these two laws to be absolutely necessary for adoption in so far as they correspond to our further demands for the introduction of the well-known law on foreign economic activity—this is the first thing—and the conduct of our foreign policy. Therefore, at present it is a very hot time. Every one of the deputies and members of our commission knows what he must do and how he must prepare for the future session. [end recording]

Belarus

Official Urges Joining of CIS Defense Union

LD0409180192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1620 GMT 4 Sep 92

[By BELINFORM correspondent Valentin Menshikov for TASS]

[Text] Minsk September 4 TASS—"We will be a looser if we do not enter a defence union of Commonwealth states," the head of the Belarus Council of Ministers' Department of Social Security and Defence Affairs, Gennadiy Danilov, told BELINFORM correspondent. According to him, republics must have their own defence forces. But it will be more effective to solve questions concerning personnel management, ensuring material-technical supplies, communications and number of other problems in consultation with each other.

As is known, emphasising its neutral status, Belarus did not sign the collective security treaty in Tashkent conference. According to Danilov, it has not only cooled down its relations with other countries of the Commonwealth, but also caused considerable material harm. Many enterprises producing unique defence oriented equipment have been inadequately converted to civil production, highly qualified specialist are left jobless....and the number of troops, brought under the republic's jurisdiction, has almost twice exceeded its rational requirements, he opined.

It has been decided to put forward these and other military problems for discussion in the autumn session of the Belarusian Supreme Soviet. At that time deputies will also consider the question regarding the defence union.

Officials Note Need for 'Reliable Army'

MK0709133992 Moscow KURANTY in Russian (No 168) 4 Sep 92 p 4

[Report by Yevgeniy Krutikov and Mikhail Shchipanov under the "Hot Topic" rubric: "Who Are These Bad People?"]

[Text] The Consultative Council session which took place in the capital of sovereign Belarus, and which usually precedes the opening of the next parliament session, was dedicated to the republic's military doctrine. The defense minister and the chairman of the relevant parliamentary commission talked a lot about the priorities of a small but effective army, staffed, for the most part, by Belarusian officers. Admittedly, at the present time it is allegedly with reluctance that those officers of Russian origin are being let go, but there are over 30,000 of their own, native officers. The concern of those who spoke was also prompted by the fact that the Russians serving in Belarus, on the whole, are officers, and this is probably perceived as a sign that the new army is not the most reliable. The deputies were left in no doubt that a reliable army is needed. To the surprise of many, the local military officials began to talk about how Belarus may be forced to defend the integrity of its borders. Exactly which borders were being talked about and who intends to attack them remained unclarified. Obviously, it is a great military secret.

First Group of Cadets Takes Officers' Oath

OW0609164892 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1551 GMT 6 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Today the first group of 480 cadets trained by Belarusian military colleges have taken the oath of loyalty to the Belarusian state and people on Independence Square in Minsk. In accordance with a decree of the Belarusian parliament, the form of oath taken today is only to be used for soldiers and cadets. The text for an oath to be taken by commissioned officers and generals is to be approved by the parliament at its autumn session.

Parliament chairman Stanislav Shushkevich told journalists a few days ago that Belarusian Defense Minister Pavel Kozlovskiy would be the first to take the new oath.

Former Union Debt Issue Settled With Russia

PM0409143392 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Sep 92 Morning Edition p 2

[ITAR-TASS report: "Belarus and Russia Find Mutually Advantageous Way of Paying Off Debts on Accounts of Former USSR"]

[Text] Minsk—I will pay your urgent debts, but on the condition that what your debtors return to you will be mine. This is how the sense of the agreement, made public by the Belarus Government, between Russia and Belarus on the payment of the foreign economic debt on the accounts of the former USSR may briefly be summarized.

According to this document, the Russian Federation undertakes to pay Belarus's share—about $3.5 billion, which constitutes 4.13 percent of the overall debt of the former USSR. However, not by way of charity, but in return for so-called assets of which Russia will now be owner. This is a certain proportion of the republic's share in the property of the former Union abroad.

BELINFORM-TASS's correspondent was informed at Belarus Government headquarters that the birth of this agreement had been long and difficult. However, weighing up all the pros and cons, the sides had come to the conclusion that this version was the most sensible, farsighted, and advantageous for both republics.

Brest Plant Diversifying Into Consumer Goods

PM0409115992 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1700 GMT 1 Sep 92

[Report by A. Guretskiy and A. Sinegubov in Brest; from the "Novosti" newscast]]

[Text] Belarus Supreme Soviet Chairman Stanislav Shushkevich, on his return from a recent tour of South Korea, reaffirmed that he intends to restore certain aspects of a planned economy in the republic, and specifically the so-called five-year plan system, but obviously not without free-market elements.

[Guretskiy] The Belarus defense industry has a vested interest in exploiting its substantial potential in the interests of the market.

The Brest Electrical Engineering Concern, one of the leading enterprises of the republic's military-industrial complex, has doubled its output of consumer goods this year, marketing school computer systems, [environmental] protection instruments, all kinds of radio equipment, medical equipment, and, naturally, things needed in the home, primarily all kinds of kitchen appliances. Everything the plant is offering on the market is highly reliable.

Currently contracts are being concluded at the plant, not just contracts for the sale and purchase of goods, but also contracts for mutually advantageous cooperation with a view to subsequent sharing out of profits.

Further on New Draft Constitution

LD0409215192 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 0500 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Report by P. Makritskiy; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The draft constitution has been published in the republican press for the people to discuss. The first news conference was held on 3 September at the Supreme Soviet, where the Constitutional Commission presented the draft and fielded questions from journalists. According to the draft, the Republic of Belarus is a unitary, democratic, and law-governed state. Although an elected president is expected to be considered head of the state, Belarus is to be a parliamentary Republic.

[Begin V.I. Sholodonov, deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet, recording] A number of new sections are being introduced for the first time—presidential rule, the section on national security. Most important in my view, is the fact that we have now tried to draw a distinct line between legislature, executive, and judiciary and to introduce sections which separate them. [end recording]

Croatia, Macedonia, Bosnia-Hercegovina Recognized

OW0709194592 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1351 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Report by diplomatic correspondents A. Borodin, E. Terekhov, and others—transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The presidium of the Belarusian parliament issued a decree to recognize Croatia, Macedonia and Bosnia as independent states, and establish diplomatic relations with the three republics of former Yugoslavia.

In another resolution the presidium of the Belarusian parliament set up a commission on political emigration led by Vasiliy Sholodonov, the parliament's deputy chairman.

The need to establish this commission was prompted by the fact that recently tens of foreign citizens had requested the leaders of Belarus to grant them political asylum.

Large Areas of Agricultural Land on Fire

LD0409193492 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1815 GMT 4 Sep 92

[By BELINFORM correspondent Yekaterina Vysotskaya]

[Text] Minsk September 4 TASS—Fire has been reported from ten thousand hectares of Belarusian land. A total of 283 fire spots have been registered despite cool weather and showers. Lightening and hurricanes have deteriorated the situation.

Fire is on in 13 out of the 16 administrative districts of the Brest region. The five fire spots in the Minsk, Vitebsk, Mogilev and Gomel regions are still the most dangerous.

Over 6,000 fire-fighters are extinguishing the fire with the use of about 1,500 specialized vehicles and equipment. The Army, the police and specialists from the Belarusian civil defence units are helping the fire-fighters.

Moldova

Snegur Begins Official Visit to Bulgaria

LD0609210292 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1657 GMT 6 Sep 92

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Abrosimov]

[Text] Sofia September 6 TASS—Moldovan President Mircea Snegur arrived in Bulgaria on Sunday [6 September] on an official visit at the invitation of Bulgarian President Zhelyu Zhelev.

This is the first visit of the head of the sovereign Moldovan state to Bulgaria, during which a treaty on friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries will be signed.

In the Sofia Airport, decorated with national flags, Snegur was met by the Bulgarian president and other officials.

A guard of honor was lined up and national anthems of both states were played.

After the official ceremony the Moldovan president and other members of the Moldovan delegation went to the "Boyana" residence where the Bulgarian president, in accordance with the programme of the visit, gave an official dinner in honor of the Moldovan president.

Friendship, Cooperation Treaty Signed

LD0709123692 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1110 GMT 7 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Abrosimov]

[Text] Sofia, 7 Sep—A treaty on friendly relations and cooperation between the Republic of Bulgaria and the Republic of Moldova has been signed by Presidents Zhelyu Zhelev and Mircea Snegur in Sofia today. Mircea Snegur is here on an official visit. The text of the treaty, which is to be valid for 10 years, notes that Bulgaria and Moldova will develop their relations on a basis of mutual respect and trust. Both states intend to make an effort to enhance the role of the UN as a guarantor of international peace. They will be interacting in the framework of the CSCE in the name of strengthening security and developing all-around cooperation in Europe. Great importance is being attached to deepening mutually beneficial links between the two countries in the trade and economic, scientific, social, cultural, and other spheres. The sides have pledged to guarantee that the rights of every member of the Bulgarian minority in Moldova, and of all Moldovans in Bulgaria are observed in line with international standards adopted in this sphere, the treaty points out.

In their statements the presidents of the two republics stressed the great importance of the document. According to their assessment, the document has laid down the legal agreement foundations for future relations at all levels. The treaty, Mircea Snegur said, reflects the mutual intention to develop a long-term relationship characteristic for European countries. He made a positive assessment of the aid given by the Bulgrain side to original Bulgarians residing on the territory of Moldova. Speaking about the republic's future relations with Bulgaria, M. Snegur said: "We will be disciplined and precise partners."

A similar idea was expressed by Zh. Zhelev, who noted that his country "will do everything possible to implement the ideas contained in the treaty." The document, in the opinion of the president, is opening up a way for reaching concrete agreements to stimulate the development of cooperation in the spheres which present interest to both sides. The head of the Bulgarian state mentioned the importance of the efforts made by the Moldovan leadership to preserve and develop the ethnic, linguistic, cultural, and religious originality of the Bulgarians residing on the Moldovan territory.

The presidents rated positively the results of the talks held by the delegations of the two countries—the talks which have mapped out fundamental ways for further relations. In reply to journalists' questions, Zh. Zhelev and M. Snegur spoke in particular, in favor of fruitful development of relations with Russia. In this connection the Moldovan president noted the importance of the accords reached in the course of his recent talks with Russian President Boris Yeltsin in Moscow. In reply to a question about the future of Bulgarians in Moldova in the event of its unification with Romania, M. Snegur said he is empowered to sign today's treaty on behalf of the whole population of the republic, including Bulgarians. "It is not up to individuals but up to the people to resolve the question of unification," he stressed.

Concludes Visit

LD0709153992 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1428 GMT 7 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Vladimir Abrosimov]

[Text] Sofia, 7 Sep—Moldovan President Mircea Snegur ended his official visit to Bulgaria and left Sofia on 7 September. He was seen off at the capital's airport by Zhelyu Zhelev, head of the Bulgarian state, and other officials.

Snegur Meets Chinese, IMF Representatives

AU0509152392 Bucharest Radio Romania Network in Romanian 0400 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Gabriel Ionescu report from Chisinau]

[Text] The details of the summit meeting that will be held in November between the leaders of Moldova and China were worked out yesterday, 4 September, in Chisinau during the meeting between President Mircea Snegur and the Chinese charge d'affairs in Moldova. Mr. Snegur expressed his belief that the planned act of signing the declaration on the principles of cooperation between the two countries will mark a new stage in Chinese-Moldovan relations.

Two commissions of experts will prepare the cooperation program, which includes a number of economic and cultural accords.

Yesterday, President Snegur also met with the first representative of the International Monetary Fund [IMF] in Moldova, Michael Blackwell, who said that he will be the spokesman of this financial institution and will rigorously stipulate all Moldova's needs as far as technical assistance and the restructuring of banking and statistic systems in accordance with the international systems are concerned. Mr. Snegur called for the IMF's assistance to eliminate the consequences of this year's drought. He also added that humanitarian aid would be welcomed, too, given the difficult situation of the

Republic of Moldova as a result of the hostilities triggered by separatists in the eastern part of Moldova. Mr. Blackwell announced that next week an IMF mission will arrive in Chisinau and will examine the impact of this year's drought on Moldova's economy and will establish the extent of a possible credit.

'Catastrophic' Fuel Shortage Reported

LD0509155192 Moscow Programma Radio Odin Network in Russian 1100 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Text] A catastophic shortage of fuel has come about in Moldova. There is enough for 5-6 days. According to the State Association for Supply of Petroleum Products, in the republic there are now only 4,000 tonnes of gasoline and 12,000 tonnes of fuel oil. The republic's government is taking urgent measures. Purchasers of fuel have been sent to the CIS countries. Combustible fuel is also being acquired from commercial firms.

Official on Army Recruitment, Officer Shortage

LD0409181192 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1647 GMT 4 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Demidetskiy]

[Text] Chisinau September 4 TASS—Unfortunately, the Moldovan using of a unique chance to become a demilitarized zone and state free from all arms was hampered," Moldovan Parliament deputy and Deputy Republican Military Commissar Colonel Vitaliy Zavgorodnyy told the MOLODEZH MOLDOVY newspaper.

The republic has begun building the national Army without elaborating a military doctrine and establishing the principle of its recruiting, he said. Moldovan residents are so far recruited in the Army and the Officers' Corps is made of professional servicemen of the former Soviet Army. The shortage of junior officers to command platoons and companies is catastrophic.

In the opinion of Zavgorodnyy, the use of the untrained Moldovan national Army in the Dniester conflict in April-May was unjustified. "only special police units and interior troops were professionals in the conflict. All the rest, including professional officers, were cannon-fodder. A number of cases when tens of volunteers died is a confirmation to it," he said.

"I was against the combat operations from the very beginning, as there will be no winner, and offered the most militant deputies to sit in a trench instead of a parliament meeting," stressed the colonel.

Bearing in mind, that about 6,000 soldiers on the left Dniester bank and about 3,000 on the right bank survived Afghanistan, Moldova has taken measures to prevent the formation of their special units as their force was well understood. Nevertheless, according to the information of military registration and enlistment offices, some Afghan war veterans participated in the conflict.

Plenty of them have also responded to the offices' call and joined the peace-making forces.

Romanian Candidate on Moldovan Reunification

OW0509131292 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1233 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Romania's prospective president Emil Konstantinesku, nominated by the Democratic Convention association which draws support from about 30 per cent of the electors, believes that "alien forces have divided the Romanian people". He told the Moldovan weekly Glasul Natiuni that the position of Bessarabia (Moldova) is the most difficult in Europe. He said that this problem should be considered in the historical, ethnic, political and strategic context. Whereas the first two aspects point to "Romania's indisputable right", in terms of politics and strategy the situation is far more complicated because the Republic of Moldova and Romania have got confronted with the same clash between the old and the new. Emil Konstantinesku believes that representatives of the old set-up are trying to disregard the political aspect and are deliberately aggravating the conflict.

A deeper look at the problem reveals Russia's decision to restore its might in this strategically important region and control the exit to the Black Sea and to the south of the former Soviet Union, said Konstantinesku.

He also said that he shared Moldovan Ex-Premier Mircea Druc's statement to the effect that the apt moment for reunification during the USSR's break-up was missed. It will be much more difficult to recoup the mistake. Now that the big powers are playing their game, he said, reunification should proceed through economic and cultural integration with Bessarabia, and through finding and acquiring allies in the West.

Adviser on Trans-Dniester Special Status

OW0409204392 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1758 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Report prepared by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from the "Presidential Bulletin" feature—transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Our primary objective today is to preserve peace in Trans-Dniester, curbing, whenever necessary, any attempts to destabilize the situation," the Moldovan president's adviser, Nicolae Kirtoake, said in an exclusive interview for Interfax. Commenting of the recent talks in Moscow between Moldova's President Mircea Snegur and Russian President Boris Yeltsin, he emphasized that the truce achieved in Trans-Dniester merely marks the first stage of the settlement. In his opinion, the parties now have to overcome the burden of preceding mutual misunderstanding which have "piled up in the

recent 203 years," which transformed the socio-political conflict into an armed confrontation.

In the adviser's words, the joint control commission and the peace-keeping forces have created adequate conditions for adopting the legislation in regards to the special status of Trans-Dniester. This process, Mr Kirtoake noted, is occurring against the backdrop of the attempts undertaken by certain forces at both banks of the Dniester to obstruct constructive solution of the problem.

"Boris Yeltsin's statement in which he assumed upon himself the role of a mediator in determining the status of Trans-Dniester has been fully justified by the course of events," Mr Kirtoake said. In his words, a Russian delegation is expected to arrive in Moldova soon, its composition, as compares with analogous missions such delegations had to address earlier, has been radically changed. Previously, such delegations were composed predominantly of the military, whereas now it includes diplomats and politicians, and it is headed, according to Mr Kirtoake, by one of the deputies of the Russian foreign minister.

"This approach is indicative of the fact that Russia is regarding the developments on Moldova as the affairs in the competence of its foreign ministry, which is only natural at this stage," he underlined.

Mr Kirtoake also added that the process of stabilization of the situation in Trans-Dniester should be viewed as a complex of measures. "We should always bear in mind the interests of the people who live this region, while the notion "special status of Trans-Dniester" appears to be of key importance in resolving this issue," he said. "The more aspects of this issue, including local administration and wide-scale autonomy are taken into consideration, the closer we will be to untangling the Trans-Dniester knot," the president's adviser concluded.

Dniester Official Comments on Yeltsin's Role

LD0509174192 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0500 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Text] Grigoriy Marakutsa, the head of the Dniester region's parliament, evaluated Russian President Boris Yeltsin's agreement to act as an intermediary during talks as a wish to conduct talks between Chisinau and Tiraspol on equal terms.

According to EXPRESS-KHRONIKA, he noted that Russia's leaders understand that it is pointless to define the status of the eastern areas of Moldova without taking account of the interests of the Dniester region. Marakutsa thinks that relations between Chisinau and Tiraspol will depend on the relations between Russia and Ukraine.

Results of Peacekeeping Role in Dniester Noted

OW0709192292 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1041 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A Combined commission, coordinating peace-keepers' actions in the Dniester region of Moldova, has taken joint control posts in northern Trans-Dniester off active duty. In the commission's view, peace-keepers have coped with the task to stop the conflict in the areas in full.

The commission discussed commandant offices' activity in Transdniesteria and instructed the 14 Russian army command to strictly abide by the neutrality and prevent commandant offices from meddling in work by peace-keepers and local self-administrative bodies.

The commission officially refuted allegations being spread in Trandniesteria that Moldova's troops are getting ready to attack Bendery.

It approved a plan of actions for groups of military observers in the zone of conflict, groups that had been set up as a result of four-sided agreements between Moldova, Russia, Romania, and Ukraine.

Kazakhstan

Nazarbayev on Current Issues

LD0609155792 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1115 GMT 6 Sep 92

[Interview with President Nursultan Nazarbayev, chaired by IZVESTIYA Editor Igor Golemlbiovskiy; with KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA Editor Vladislav Fronin; LITERATURNAYA GAZETA Editor Arkadiy Udaltsov; YEREMENDI KAZAKHSTAN Editor Sherkhan Murtazayev; KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA Editor Vyacheslav Srybnykh, Kazakh Radio and Television Company Chairman Gadilbek Shalakhmetov; TRUD Editor Aleksandr Potapov; and MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI Editor Viktor Loshak in Alma-Ata—live]

[Text] [Golembiovskiy] Mr. President. On behalf of myself, and naturally, of my colleagues, I should like to thank you for finding the time to meet us. I have to tell you that this is the first meeting in the history of the Chief Editors Club, the first such meeting in its life. We journalists have a good idea of how precious time is for the leader of an independent state. The time you are spending on us is extremely valuable, I hope, not just for us but also for the television viewers who will be able to get acquainted with your views on the whole set of complex problems besetting us. I should like to ask you to surmise a bit, or to picture how the processes, the quite new processes of integration in the political situation will take place.

[Nazarbayev] You have asked me a very interesting, a very important, and at the same time, a very difficult question. At this stage in our history, it is an objective fact that that the CIS has been formed and, we won't waste time going into the history of it, it is probably an objective fact. The collapse of the empire and the declaration of independence by states satisfy the desires of the peoples, especially of the indigenous peoples who suffered in the period of the empire, I include in the period of Soviet power; that is all natural. However, from the first days of the beginning of that process I invariably said, and I now remain true to my convictions, that there can be no political independence, or complete independence, as some put it, without economic independence.

[Golembiovskiy] Of course.

[Nazarbayev] When states conclude between themselves treaties on economic links, they undoubtedly give up part of their sovereignty in these treaties in subordinating themselves to a common clerk of works. None of today's politicians, nor the people who are suffering as a result of today's disintegration, first of all of economic links, are guilty. I insist on this. I have been called a pragmatist and other things for this. I still insist that things have turned out in such a way that our economies are so closely integrated, that it is not possible to speak today of the self-sufficiency and independence of the economy of any state which belonged to the former Soviet Union, including Russia with its huge possiblities. I do not tire of giving examples. Why shouldn we not continue to sell alumina to the Siberian aluminium plants which run on Pavlodar's alumina, since they are now providing us with aluminum metal in the necessary quantities?

There are thousands of such examples. Kazakhstan's agriculture needs tractors from Belarus, and Belarus needs food and grain from Kazakhstan. The whole of Central Asia and Transcaucasia receives bread from Kazakhstan. Correspondingly, we receive things from there. I want to tell you once more that we have counted and analyzed—and not only I have done this, but economists and scholars have done this in Moscow and everywhere—that today 85 percent of the slump in the economy of the former Union in the republics is due to the disruption of links within the states belonging to the former Soviet Union and the disruption of ties with CEMA states. Therefore, I won't expand on this theme, that is, with examples, because I think that, after all, this is how it is. Everything is clear.

Everyone now, as you have correctly stated, has begun to feel that without economic integration, we cannot improve ourselves economically. Therefore, at the forthcoming Bishkek meeting, Kazakhstan is advancing a proposal consisting of five points. At the last meeting in Moscow we put forward a proposal on the organization of a coordinating economic council of the Commonwealth. We have worked out an agreement on what this means in specific terms, and I have distributed it to all the heads of states, all the presidents. Admittedly, it envisages rigid communications and responsibility. I have to tell you that almost all have agreed to a preliminary review—it is true that the Ukrainian delegation did not sign, not because it is against it, but because the person did not have the authority, as we were told. This is the first thing.

The second thing is a banking union. We are at present in the ruble zone. Of course, there can be three possible outcomes to events. We can stay in the ruble zone. We can introduce common ECU-style [European currency unit] money. We can introduce each state's own currency. All three options are basically viable. However, in any case, that problem of interrelations which I told you about, integration—65-70 percent of exports and receipts from other states—remains. One currency will be strong, another currency will be weak, the third currency will be average, and each state will begin to defend its money. Once again autarchy will start. Closure will begin again. (?Closure). And that will be it. That is, we will get to the point when they say that without their own money they don't have any independence and autonomy. I, on the contrary, say that Western Europe will....

[Golembiovskiy, interrupting] Well, yes. France does not lose anything when the ECU appears, or England. I don't think that a sovereign state will lose anything.

[Nazarbayev] Therefore, the second thing is a normal banking union. Of course, it would be desirable, in order to soothe the political situation, for there to be a supranational currency, rather than an all-Russian mint and Russian banknotes.

Third, we must get the economic court, which we have set up, working properly. Fourth, an assembly—this proposal also originated in Alma-Ata, when all the chairmen of the Supreme Soviets gathered there and decided to set up such a body. In other words, people's deputies from every republic, specializing in specific areas, would gather and work on the standardization of legislation, first of all economic legislation.

Fifth, the republics which belong to the zone of the defensive alliance which we have established must make a proper job of building this alliance. In the first place, this will reduce costs for everybody. Second, this will create confidence in the independence of these states, in the protection of their borders, in their security.

If we agree, as a first step, on these five points and start working properly on them, I will consider this will be a great blessing. This will be the beginning of the strengthening of the establishment of a real Commonwealth.

[Udaltsov] With your assistance, we recently set out those five principles, the ones which you wish to propose in Bishkek. We published them in LITERATURNAYA GAZETA.

[Nazarbayev] Thank you. I know.

[Udaltsov] There was, by the way, a great response to them. In principle our paper favors the retention and strengthening of those ties which have been built up over the decades. To what extent have your proposals been worked on? Maybe you have also held consultations with somebody in the CIS leadership. In other words, are you hopeful that these proposals can be adopted, wracked as we are at the moment with contradictions, and that some kind of power structures will be re-established? That, I believe, is the only way in which a common area—economic area, at any rate—can be retained. In other words, are you thinking of a new Gossnab [State Committee for Material and Technical Supply] or Gosplan [State Planning Committee], or something else?

[Nazarbayev] Political independence has been declared in all the states. We all respect this, don't we?

[Udaltsov] With equanimity.

[Nazarbayev] With equanimity; we regarded it as a normal thing. That's precisely how it should be viewed in a democratic society, if that's what we are. What we are talking about now is the creation of an economic base for this sovereignty and independence. Again, I say, without economic independence we are not independent. So, we must survive until we achieve this independence. We have to lift this economy, which is now on its side, at rock bottom. We are now the only ones who can give the economy this boost. I think the euphoria is passing, the idea that the West will come and, so to speak, give us whatever we ask them for and lift us up. People are beginning to realize that this is not so. Nobody else will do it. That's just how it is. They are not going to give us a single cent for anything. Western capital will begin to flow only when it feels it has something to be gained.

[Golembiovskiy] Of course.

[Nazarbayev] Western capital will begin to flow only when we begin to develop proprietors, private owners in a real way. We are not seeing either one or the other, therefore the peoples, all who live in the former Soviet Union, should understand that only by uniting ourselves can we put the peoples on their feet. Therefore, after participating in all nine sittings of the CIS which have taken place, at which we signed over 100 documents which nobody intends to implement, I have recently had the feeling that there has been a turnabout in the thoughts of politicians and I think this is also under the influence of the mood of the masses living in these states, and I have come to the conclusion that we must really unite. It is now difficult to restore the links which used to exist, as you say, the Gosplan and the Gossnab. It is impossible to restore that and there is no need to do it. There is no need to do that.

[Golembiovskiy] That's right. That's absolutely right, there's no need.

[Nazarbayev] There's no need to do that. We must unite in a civilized and normal way, well, like the whole world does. However, there is no need to invent the bicycle—that was done a long time ago. Independent and soverign states are trading among themselves, are concluding good commercial agreements, are selling and buying, and are growing richer and living normally. Therefore, I speak out in favor of perhaps not every state, but a group of some states, setting up normal organizations under the CIS, a normally functioning Commonwealth. Perhaps they could do without several small states to begin with. I am convinced that all the others would come or would be forced to create very close relations with these organizations.

[Fronin] Nine meetings or ten sittings of the CIS—that is perhaps not very productive for such a situation, perhaps too few meetings. How do you assess their results? Does it not seem to you that the peoples, as you say, have probably built up quite a few claims against the leaders of the main independent states already: that they are not meeting according to plan, that there are hot spots, that there are burning, serious and urgent problems which are arising, and perhaps the meetings should be more frequent and produce more results?

[Nazarbayev] In the first place, I think that what we already have in the Community today—there is the Council of Heads of State and the Council of Heads of Governments—is not bad. We do, after all, have meetings, we exchange opinions and tackle certain issues. They provide us with a basis on which we communicate, so to speak, especially in the crises which arise, such as interethnic conflicts. We have not got bogged down, we

have not stopped talking to one another, but we can talk and consult one another and tackle these issues. The very fact that now the Soviet Union has fallen apart, is falling apart, that there is no authority, everything has collapsed, so to speak, that as IZVESTIYA or LITERATURNAYA GAZETA wrote recently, everything has crumbled into dust—the very fact that at this time there is even this structure, is a positive factor, in my view. The peoples will be indignant—and quite rightly so—and dissatisfaction will emerge if these meetings prove ineffective.

I also suggested that at this difficult time for unity the meetings should be more frequent. That does not mean that these meetings should always remain ineffective, that decisions should remain unimplemented and unmonitored. That is where the danger lies. The end result is that the heads of state and heads of government sign documents and when they get home, it turns out that the regions run themselves in the localities, and the presidents' signatures count for nothing. That is the most terrible thing. That is, the absence of authority in the republics, not in all but in some, means that they do not know that we are signing accords, coming to agreement about coordination and about anything and everything; and then when it comes to implementing them, the heads of state and government issue commands and in the localities these commands are—at best—shelved, or the localities say they will in no way be implemented. Therein, frankly speaking, is the whole calamity.

Therefore, on the other hand, if we come to agreement on something, then that is how we must act. For example, let it not be taken as a reproach, I have already spoken about this with Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin, if there is some dispute over the division of the Black Sea Fleet. All in all, I am very pleased that confrontation between Ukraine and Russia is diminishing, very pleased indeed. Everyone, I think, should be pleased about it, it is essential for the Commonwealth that they are negotiating and that there is a diminution in confrontation. However, these are the strategic armed forces on which a document was signed in the Alma-Ata Declaration of four states on the creation of unified Air Defense Forces and strategic armaments, and the same at the Minsk meeting at the end of December, this time by all the states.

However, why not gather and, say, discuss this separately (?with every) state. The same could apply to reduction of the global confrontation between the NATO bloc and the former Soviet Union, a reduction in strategic armed forces. Boris Nikolayevich and I discussed this in detail prior to my trip to Washington, prior to his trip. However, other heads of state were left uninformed when the issue of a global reduction in strategic armaments was decided. In other words—and I don't say this as a reproach—if we want to strengthen the Commonwealth, we should remember that these points, which may seem minor to some, really are very important if we are to build trust with each other, the trust which we don't have at the moment.

[Murtazayev] Mr. President, a meeting was recently held between the defense ministers of China and Russia. They held talks. As a result of those talks Russia is selling arms to China. Who, I wonder, is great China defending itself against? Who is it afraid of? If it is not defending itself, then against whom are these armaments directed? As we know, if [word indistinct] a rifle or a weapon is levelled at somebody on a stage, on a theatrical stage, it must eventually be fired.

[Unseen speaker] Among us.

[Murtazayev] Pardon?

[Unseen speaker] Among us.

[Murtazayev] Yes, yes. However, three centuries ago Russia armed the Dzhungarian state. The result is well known. This ended in a great disaster for the Kazakhs. Does this not bother you?

[Nazarbayev] All states throughout the world have always traded in arms, in the first instance to provide work and a livlihood for enterprises which manufacture arms. Therefore, the question of the sale of weapons to this or that state—perhaps the People's Republic of China will sell weapons to Kazakhstan or will buy them from it, or from other states, and so on—is not an issue.

On the question of against whom China is arming itself, that is the business of every state. I think you know that not long before that meeting, our Foreign Minister Suleymenov was in Beijing, where he had talks with Li Peng, premier of the State Council of China, and with the foreign minister of the People's Republic of China, and we are preparing a broad-ranging treaty on our friendship and cooperation to ensure that the border between Kazakhstan and China is a calm border of friendship.

Therefore, Kazakhstan has no claims against Russia, as is known, nor against China, neither territorial nor any other kind. Therefore, to date, I have no grounds for saying that Russia allegedly is arming China against Kazakhstan. I don't think that we should have any such grounds. On the other hand, it should be remembered that our treaty between Russia and Kazakhstan, which has been ratified already both by the parliaments of Russia and Kazakhstan, states that we are in a unified defense union and that in the event of aggression against either of these two states, the other state will lend it assistance, up to and including military assistance. I think that says it all.

[Srybnykh] What has the past year yielded, from the point of veiw of expectations? So much was expected, we all expected so much from the changes in our lives. Which of your expectations have been realized, which have not been realized? What prevented these plans from being realized, in your view?

[Nazarbayev] After the putsch, all the peoples and all the republics of the former Soviet Union perceived the suppression of the putsch as the victory of democratic

forces. I thought that this would provide a splendid opportunity for us all to unite on a democratic basis, on a completely new basis. I thought so and was sure of that. However, unfortunately, and a phrase springs to mind, the processes, as has become the custom to say, the processes developed in the opposite direction, the opposite direction and now, they say, I really do agree with this. There are two paths. There is now a crisis. People's lives are not getting better. We have to move ahead quickly in the direction of the reforms. The pace of privatization must be accelerated. We must support our entreprenuers in a real way, create real proprietors and private owners. All reforms have failed up until now because there have not been any proprietors or private owners, on the principle that the people are the proletariat, as it were. However, after all, the people can also be proprietors and then their behavior will be quite different. Every person, every citizen can be a proprietor. Therefore, here [changes thought] and the second path, it is said, is that there must be a return to what was, to totalitarianism, to begin to command, to restore a command economy, and then things can be put in order, and so forth.

[Golembiovskiy] Then you could have told us today of a routine plenum of the CPSU Central Committee.

[Nazarbayev, laughing] Yes. [general laughter]

[Golembiovskiy] Can I put the question a different way? ? Let us turn this over in our minds—has anything ever appeared in life to instill hope and confidence, speaking about proprietors, of course. Until we resolve that question in a fundamental way, until, let's say, the problem of ownership is resolved in Russia, and in the first instance, the ownership of land, we will keep coming up against only some thoughts, some theoretical conclusions as to why things are going wrong. Is there anything in the life of Kazakhstan, in the life of the republic, which you hope for, which instills confidence in you?

[Nazarbayev] Last year, at the end of last year, and during this year, so that a full year has not yet passed, we began to implement our program, our program for taking property out of state hands and privatizing it under the conditions of Kazakhstan. We are not making a fuss or claiming to have achieved a great deal, but there has been movement in this area. We started with housing. Now, 40 percent of housing is individually owned. Five years ago we gave everyone permission to take land for allotments, as much land per person as they wanted. Thankfully, the territory of Kazakhstan enables us to do this. Land, too, for building your own home, dacha plots. I can now say that in Kazakhstan today, almost all families who wanted to build a dacha have obtained the necessary plots. True, 82 percent of the demand for building your own home has been met and I think that's great progress too.

[Golembiovskiy] It is indeed.

[Nazarbayev] Two or three years ago the vegetable problem, let's call it, of things people need, declined. Demand and tension also declined. However, privatization of housing is generally proceeding slowly and we would like it be completed altogether next year. No doubt, the housing benefits we provide are holding people back. I have to tell all Kazakhs that apartment rents are to go up according to the state's expenditure on services and amenities. There are subsidies in Kazakhstan for amenities and services. It used to be 1 billion [rubles] per annum. Now it's probably 10 billion. This burden must be entirely assumed by the people living in those apartments. Once there is an objective increase in apartment rents, it will be to everyone's advantage to have a privately owned apartment, and all the more so, as we have worked out a system of vouchers that enables everyone's length of time in work to be taken into account, and benefits are awarded in connection with this.

In industry, 2,700 enterprises have been privatized this year. That is 9 percent of the total. Out of a total of 100 percent, I think 9 percent represents something of an improvement. In terms of the volume of output produced, 14 percent of the output produced in one year is provided by the non-state sector, in which I include cooperatives, collectives, private property and so on and so forth.

About 300 joint ventures have been set up with foreigners in Kazakhstan. This is because our legislation allows Western investors to move more boldly into Kazakhstan. Altogether, 141 commercial banks and 45 concerns and associations have been set up during the past year. As you know, Western business has made its biggest investments in Kazakhstan. We have obtained open credit, without any upper limit, from the government of Austria. We have obtained credit from the government of Turkey and from the government of Germany. On 20 September I will set off on visits to Germany and France. In each of these states we will sign documents dealing with all of these areas.

In other words there is a quick return for the 18 million people of Kazakhstan. Given these opportunities, I am optimistic about the future of our economy. However, now we find ourselves obliged to draft a new approach to reform in Kazakhstan, one which is more appropriate to our conditions and not shackled to any other canons that there might be. I think I will be able to make an announcement this autumn. Naturally this will be progress—and only in the direction of the market, in the direction of reform.

[Potapov] Mr. President, won't our movement simply be overwhelmed, though, under the pressure of social tension? I represent a newspaper which has been not so much politicized, perhaps, as socialized, and this threatening increase of danger connected with the gap between prices and incomes, looming unemployment and the fate of the pensioners, children, motherhood and so on—won't this throw us back from the radical path to reform and to the market?

[Nazarbayev] Indeed, prices are rising. We are not able to raise people's wages in time to keep up the price hikes and, most interestingly for the analysis of what's happening in Kazakhstan, the more the region has high wages, the higher the prices are in the region. This year for example we have raised the wage level of an industrial region such as Karaganda and Ustkamenogorsk in eastern Kazakhstan by seven or eight-fold, let us say. These are the very regions where prices have gone up seven or eight-fold. Where we have raised wages four-fold, prices have gone up four-fold. We must remember Erhard and tell everyone that raising wages without increasing labor productivity redounds to the disadvantage of the individual. If production does not increase, if a factory, say, has produced a thousand shoes—pairs of shoes—at 500 rubles [R], tomorrow wages from R4,000 a month are raised by 800, by 8,000, then the shoes will cost not 500, but R1,000. Everything—everything that we have increased will go the same way, will be increased still further.

Nobody can grasp this. In one role he acts as a producer, as a factory worker. In another role he goes into a shop and asks why boots are so expensive. Because you sold them for R1,000, comes the answer. Recently I met some shepherds. One of them asked why suits were so expensive. I asked him how much he was selling wool for. It used to be R25. Now it's R250. So, how do you expect the price of the suit to stay at R250? He had no answer to that.

So, you see, we made a big mistake when, at one go, we abolished all state regulation of prices and wages. Nowhere else in the world was this done when a market economy was adopted. However, we are being advised to deregulate everything, told that we must deregulate everything. I agree that we cannot get away from this—and we will deregulate. We will deregulate the price of hydrocarbons. We have no option. However, it should be done in stages.

By the way, in Russia they are constantly saying that the IMF is forcing them to deregulate the price of hydrocarbons immediately, but that is not so. When I visited IMF headquarters in Washington, I spent an hour and a half with M. Camdessus, the IMF's managing director, explaining to him what would happen if we were to deregulate the price of hydrocarbons overnight. I explained to him in detail how thousands of enterprises would grind to a halt, simply because their products would become so expensive that nobody would be able to afford them. After all, energy is used in the production of all types of raw material. Millions of people would take to the streets. That would be the end of perestroyka and reform. Mr. President, he replied, we have never said you should do things that way. On the contrary, we suggested a timetable of fuel price increases, to be implemented by 1994.

With all the other issues, too, we failed to do things in stages. We completely abolished the state's regulatory role. Why, you may ask, did Kazakhstan not do this? Well, Kazakhstan cannot do this while it is still part of the ruble zone, with open borders. It had to follow the rules of the game.

[Loshak] If you don't mind, Mr. President, I should like to step half a pace aside from the economy. Clearly, the fate of every state and the fate of the CIS as a whole depends, to a considerable extent, on the mood of the intelligentsia. MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI is targeted at the intelligentsia. It reflects its views. In the case of Russia we see how the intelligentsia is, to a certain extent, joining the opposition. It's difficult to say what the main reason for this is. Maybe it is dissatisfaction with the course of reform, with its results and pace, but nevertheless, it is a fact. How are your relations with the intelligentsia developing here, in the state of Kazakhstan?

[Nazarbayev] All the processes which are taking place in all other CIS states are fully reproduced here in Kazakhstan. Our legislation and our actions allow the fullest scope to the development of a multiparty system. We now have several parties. There is the People's Congress, the Socialist Party, the Republican Party, and the Democratic Party. Those are the main ones, I should say. They are functioning. The fact is that the people have become weary of all this politics, of all these parties. People are worried about other things. So, what can I say? The intelligentsia expresses the views, the destiny of the people, so to speak. We have a representative of it here in Sherkhan Murtazayev—he is a writer. He is also a bit involved with politics, being a member of the Supreme Soviet. All the others too. I try to meet various groups of the intelligentsia—young, middle-aged and older ones—as frequently as I can, in order to explain the policy which is being implemented here. I feel that I find a common language with the bulk of the intelligentsia, and that I have their support.

Well, interesting things are happening in Russia of course. Maybe this is because intellectual forces, operating in different fields—writers, composers, economists, and lawyers—are more concentrated there than here. There are more of them. There is, perhaps, a greater spread of views there. However, on the whole, I don't think that the intelligentsia should be in opposition to the reforms which are taking place in Russia, to the building of a market economy, to the development of a democratic, prosperous Russia.

Viktor Grigoryevich [Loshak], I appeal to the Russian intelligentsia. No matter what camp they may find themselves in today, I would like them to think about how crucial this juncture is, for Russia, for the Russian state, for Russia's future. We hope, of course, that a truly democratic state will emerge in Russia. Russia is our strategic neighbor and friend. The Kazakh people, citizens of Kazakhstan, link their strategic future with a democratic, open and friendly neighbor like Russia.

This is what we are hoping for.

[Fronin] So far we have spoken more about Russia [words indistinct], if you don't mind my saying so. We are an

inter-state newspaper which targets itself at a wider readership than just Russia and Kazakhstan. Our readers live in Moldavia, in the Baltic republics, and the Transcaucasus. How do you assess the processes taking place there? This is a global question, of course, but I would like to discuss it from a specific angle, that of refugees. Evidently this problem has also reached Kazakhstan.

[Nazarbayev) A few years ago, I think, we would not have imagined such a development of events, that people would be killing each other in peacetime. Even supporters of mono-ethnic states could ask themselves why Tajiks are killing Tajiks, why Georgians are killing Georgians, and so on. Once again, this is a product of the economic problems people are experiencing. That is why all this is happening. It is motivated by anger. People who are living a happy, normal life don't get worked up.

Second, I should say that under normal circumstances, the average individual would not get up and start killing his neighbor for no good reason. I don't know how you can imagine such a thing. What are the psychological factors which might influence him to get up and start killing somebody? Politicians and political intriguers of all kinds, the ones who have led their own peoples into fratricidal conflict, have an immense burden of responsibility to bear toward history. This will never be erased from history. It will never be forgotten. God forbid that this should happen. I do not envy those politicians who, wittingly or unwittingly, intentionally or unintentionally, led their peoples into such clashes.

Well, I read your newspapers. I hear of the concerns felt by our fellow-countrymen—I am referring to the non-indigenous section of the population, so to speak. There is a certain amount of anxiety. These concerns are, I think, prompted by the events which are taking place in other republics, rather than lack of confidence in the policy which is being implemented in Kazakhstan. I can tell you, quite authoritatively, that you will not find a single law adopted since Kazakhstan declared its sovereignty and independence which is not based on equality of rights for all.

During the present debate on the new draft constitution, I told Parliament that if the new constitution failed to unite us, if it divided the peoples of Kazakhstan, it would not be wanted. What about language questions? Kazakh has been declared the state language of Kazakhstan. However, the law also says that, on the territory of Kazakhstan, the Russian language—the language of interethnic communication in Kazakhstan—has parity with the state language. This law has been in force for three years. If you know of anybody who can say that he has been harmed in any way by this principle, find him for me. I don't think you will find such a person.

As always, some processes—such as those which always happened in the past—may occur among ordinary people, at the grassroots. We remember what happened in our youth, what was said then, and so on. This may be painful. It should be fought. I would always ask our intelligentsia, our press, our mass media to do this. Some think that, in doing so, I neglect the interests of the Kazakh people in some way. No, that is not the case. If I speak of people's friendship, it is, I think, primarily because I am mindful of the future, of the development and prosperity of the Kazakh people.

[Shalakhmetov] Let me continue this theme. In several of your speeches you have spoken of the historic importance of Slav-Turkic ties, and mentioned this as a possible basis for relations between CIS states. You have stressed that a knowledge of this problem is especially important for peace in Russia and Kazakhstan. Why do you draw attention to this?

[Nazarbayev] It would be difficult for any of us to find pure-blooded Russians or pure-blooded Kazakhs in Asia. In this region various peoples, steppe-dwellers, have lived together for thousands of years. Therefore, it is no secret to anybody that civilizations have mixed with each other for many hundreds of years, along the line of the Great Silk Road, from East to West and vice versa. Centers of culture, technology, silk, gunpowder and so on came into being. Why should not one assume that culture spread from Asia to Europe and vice versa? This has been proved by history. So, the former Soviet Union—which is now a Commonwealth—can be united around the principles of a Euro-Asiatic state. There is no need for us to go our separate ways, no need to break up along ethnic lines. That would be like going back to the Middle Ages. By acknowledging that we live in a single Euro-Asiatic continent, that we have a common destiny, that we have a common culture, that cultures and nations have mixed together so much, by understanding this mentality—which has become a shared mentality over the years—we can, I think, find a way of uniting, understanding each other and living in peace. This is where the future of these peoples lies.

Endurance and patience are greatly needed by our people at the present moment if they are to survive this difficult period. It must be gone through. There is no need to wonder what lies ahead. The classics, so to speak—Marx and Lenin—tell us what is our best course of action.

Lenin himself said that the social formation which has the highest labor productivity will triumph. So our system, socialism, lost objectively, according to Lenin's tenets. Everybody must realize that, because at the beginning of perestroyka in 1985, our agricultural productivity was 20 times lower than America's, our industrial productivity was five times lower than America's, our capital construction was eight times lower than the West's. So we objectively lost the peaceful competition. Such a society will have the advantage [as heard]. Therefore, that's enough taking refuge in socialism or capitalism. In the end, people have to be told, and we ourselves have to assimilate the fact that we are building a market economy of a capitalist type, taking account of everything which we have, of everything which there is in our history. We must try to defend our people socially and not hang such heavy burdens around their necks.

This is what we must think of now—and of social accord in such a multi-ethnic state as Kazakhstan, and people's understanding, their belief in their leaders, in the programs which they propose, and at the same time, the unconditional concern of the state for the poor; and I think this will yield positive results.

A multinational state such as Kazakhstan needs accord between the nationalities. The Kazakhs and the Russians are the two main ethnic groups. Our welfare depends upon the social harmony of these two ethnic groups. The Russian people living here who consider Kazakhstan to be their homeland should understand the objective nature of the historic demands of the Kazakh people which wants their language to be the same as the Russian language for Russians in Russia, and the history of the Kazakhs to be restored, just as the history of the Russians was.

At the same time, the Kazakhs must understand that Kazkhstan is the homeland of all those who live here and we are building a prosperous Kazakhstan, a new economy for all, for all, because this is the homeland of all people of the 100 nationalities and ethnic groups living in our republic, and also in all states of the CIS, too. Therefore, the policy must be the right one, of course. It must be understood by the peoples, and supported by the peoples.

This is the crux of the matter. If this is so, the people should hold fast and follow this policy and follow and support it to the end.

[Golembiovskiy] Mr. President, we thank you not only for giving us your time, and, I think I am expressing the opinion of my colleagues here, first of all, for the honesty and sincerity with which you have spoken to us of the problems facing Kazakhstan and of your views on all our common problems. Thank you.

[Nazarbayev] Thank you for coming, for having shown an interest in Kazakhstan and in Alma-Ata. I hope that it won't be the last time that you and I meet.

[Golembiovskiy] Thank you.

Kyrgyz President Arrives For Meeting With Nazarbayev

Impromptu News Conference

LD0409170392 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1114 GMT 4 Sep 92

[By KAZTAG correspondent Amangeldiy Akhmetalimov and Gennadiy Kulagin for TASS]

[Text] Alma-Ata September 4 TASS—Kyrgyz President Askar Akayev arrived here today in the afternoon for a working visit. Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev welcomed him at the airport, decked with the national flags of the two fraternal republics.

At the impromptu press conference held at the ramp of the airliner the Kazakh leader said that such contacts of leaders, especially if they are leaders of the neighbouring states bound by common history and culture, should take place regularly. The two presidents intend to discuss in Alma-Ata the problems included in the agenda of the CIS summit meeting, due to be held in Bishkek on September 25.

Askar Akayev pointed to the importance of the proposals put forward recently by the Kazakh president, which are aimed at a further integration within the CIS framework, specifically, the creation of a coalition council for economic cooperation, of the defence and banking alliances, as well as the economic court.

Then the presidents visited the international fair "Karkara-92", at which the day of Kyrgyzstan is held today.

On Saturday [5 September] they will go to the Dzhambul district of the Alma-Ata region and attend there a meeting of young people from the two republics.

Nazarbayev Proposes Strengthening CIS

OW0409224692 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1842 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Kyrgyzstani President Askar Akayev, who began a visit to Alma-Ata on Friday [4 September], said that he had set out with the intention of discussing several matters with President Nursultan Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan to "bolster". These matters would be included on the agenda for the meeting of Heads of Commonwealth States which will take place in Bishkek on September 25th.

In a short discussion with journalists at Alma-Ata Airport, Nazarbayev pointed out that he had invited Akayev to Alma-Ata to discuss initiatives made by Kazakhstan in preparation for the Bishkek meeting. Kazakhstan proposes a package of measures to strengthen mutual economic and political cooperation between the CIS nations, in particular to form a council to co-ordinate economic collaboration within the Commonwealth, to found an economic court of arbitration, to increase the authority of the inter-parliamentary assembly and to form an inter-bank union. Moreover, the following three variants are being proposed:

—that the Commonwealth nations stay in the unified ruble zone;

—that a new monetary currency be introduced on the lines of the Western European ECU;

—that separate national currencies be issued.

In Nazarbayev's opinion, "confusion could begin" with the introduction of separate national currencies since each republic would be protecting "its own" currency. He considered that the best variant was the adoption of a "national currency".

Nursultan Nazarbayev also described the utmost fortification of the defensive union as one of the essential measures for strengthening the CIS. He stressed that this would be a most advantageous and "weighty" decision for the Commonwealth to make.

Further on CIS Summit Initiatives

LD0509200992 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1700 GMT 5 Sep 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

Kyrgyzstan President Askar Akayev has been here in Kazakhstan for two days.

[Begin recording] [President N. Nazarbayev] I invited Askar Akayev to take part in a working meeting to discuss the problems of the meeting of the CIS heads of state, which is to be held in Bishkek on 25 September. There we want to jointly propose some serious initiatives.

[Akayev] Therefore, as the organizers, we are highly interested in discussing these initiatives beforehand in order to prepare all these issues for the CIS session in the relevant manner. [end recording]

[Correspondent D. Baimbetov] I will remind you of Nursultan Nazarbayev's five substantive proposals. These are setting up a coordinating economic council of the CIS, an interparliamentary assembly for drawing closer together the legislation of the Commonwealth states, a banking alliance, an economic court, and a common defense alliance.

Leaders Attend Youth Gathering

LD0509175192 Moscow Programma Radio Odin Network in Russian 1430 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Text] On 5 September, the young people of Kazakhstan and Kyrgystan extended a cordial welcome to Presidents Nursultan Nazarbayev and Askar Akayev. The meeting took place in Dzhambulskiy border rayon and was devoted to the December events of 1986 in Alma-Ata.

Speaking at the festivities, the presidents particularly emphasized the great importance of the long-standing traditions of friendship and mutual understanding that link the peoples of Kazakhstan and Kyrgystan, who have common historical and cultural roots. Today's meeting between the young people of the two republics is deeply symbolical, since it will be up to them to strengthen this friendship, and perhaps this colorful festival of friendship will be the basis for yet another fine tradition, and such gatherings of young people from the neighboring republics will be continued.

Praise 1986 Youth Movement

OW0709224892 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1612 GMT 7 Sep 92

[From "Presidential Bulletin"—transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] President Nursultan Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan and Askar Akayev of Kyrgyzstan, in their Sunday [6 September] speeches at the popular rally in Jambul district of Alma-Ata region praised the courage and perseverance of the participants of the events in Alma-Ata in December, 1986.

IF [INTERFAX] Note: In December, 1986, Gennadiy Kolbin came to Alma-Ata on the decision of the CPSU Politbureau to replace the then Kazakh leader Dinmukhammet Kunayev slated for pension. This move by the "Center" which had not been coordinated with the republic's party powers produced mass student riots in the capital which were suppressed by police and KGB. The official press at that time, including the publications inside Kazakhstan, characterized those events as a riot of rampant nationalists inflamed by Kunayev's corrupted followers. Today's commemorative functions are conducted on the initiative of the "Zheltoksan" ["December"] national democratic party and some other social organizations.

Addressing the participants of the rally, President Nazarbayev characterized the events of 1986 as the first democratic outbreak of "student youth against the dictatorship of the Center". He emphasized that in 1986, Russians and Kazakhs were deliberately set against each other, while the movement was "brutally suppressed". "We live in a different environment now," the Kazakh president noted, adding that the events of December, 1986, should be subject to reassessment.

According to the local observers, President Akayev was more categorical in his judgments, emphasizing that "the Alma-Ata revolution of 1986" stands out as straws in the wind in "popular struggle against totalitarianism and Soviet imperialism". In his opinion, "the first democratic movement takes root from our soil" (Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan) and only then "the Baltic states and Georgia followed suit".

President Akayev asserted that Kyrghyz and Kazakh peoples are "twins born of the same mother". Therefore, as soon as "democratically-minded Kyrghyzs learned about the youth disturbances in Alma-Ata, they "started out to assist their brothers, but were stopped".

IF [INTERFAX] Note: The "Zheltoksan" national democratic party, now nearly 5,000 strong, was incepted in May 1990. It is a radical organization that pursues an openly oppositional policy, capitalizing on the principle of "expression and protection of interests of the indigenous population".

Nazarbayev Welcomes Nagorno-Karabakh Cease-Fire

LD0809085592 Alma-Ata Radio Alma-Ata World Service in English 2030 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Text] President Nazarbayev has made a statement in which he welcomed a solution of the Azerbaijan and Armenia presidents to cease hostilities in Nagorno-Karabakh. In the statement Mr. Nazarbayev has suggested to hold urgently a sitting of the trilateral working group to prepare the way for a meeting of the Azerbaijan, Armenia, and Kazakhstan presidents in Alma-Ata.

Tajikistan

President Nabiyev Resigns Position

Gives Resignation Speech; Fate Unknown

LD0709180892 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1700 GMT 7 Sep 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Tajik President Rakhman Nabiyev resigned today under pressure from the armed opposition. According to witnesses, Nabiyev went to an airport in the afternoon, from where, as was reported earlier, he should have flown to Leninabad. ITAR-TASS reports that on its way, the motorcade was fired on by armed picketers. When Nabiyev arrived at the airport, it was blocked by armed detachments of the opposition, who presented an ultimatum demanding his resignation. Our agency has video of this event.

[Begin Nabiyev recording] Dear compatriots. Members of the Presidium of the Republic's Supreme Soviet and members of the Presidium of the Cabinet of Ministers are here in this hall. You already know—it was published in the press and broadcast on radio and television—that they have expressed a lack of confidence in me as president. Now they have taken full responsibility on themselves, and that is why, taking into consideration the political situation, and with the aim of further stabilizing the situation and ending the fratricide, I have decided to lay down my powers as the president of the republic. I wish you all good health and peace in every household. [end recording]

After this statement Rakhman Nabiyev signed all the necessary documents. We have no further information as to his fate. There is some serious apprehension, however, as organizers of the takeover have stated that Nabiyev caused so much harm and blood to the Tajik people that he has no right to live.

According to Abdulloyev, Tajikistan's justice minister, the power in the republic should be handed over to Supreme Soviet Chairman Iskandarov. So far the session of parliament has not achieved a quorum. Today's sitting has been postponed until Tuesday [8 September] afternoon. According to Abdulloyev, even if a session convenes, it will not possible to conduct a referendum in the present situation of conflict that exists in the republic.

Submits Resignation Letter

LD0709175292 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Tajik 1700 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Text of letter by Rakhman Nabiyev issued in Dushanbe on 7 September]

[Text] To the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Tajikistan and the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan. From Rakhman Nabiyev, president of the Republic of Tajikistan.

Parallel to my letter, I beseech you to consider my resignation in view of the aggravation of the political situation in the republic and in view of the statement by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and the Government of Tajikistan on their lack of confidence in me. I also to ask your approval to retain my privileges in accordance with the law.

I resign of my own free will.

[Signed] Rakhman Nabiyev

[Dated] 7 September 1992

Held in 'Safe, Secure Place'

LD0809152392 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Uzbek 1400 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Text] According to reports, yesterday Rakhman Nabiyev, president of the Republic of Tajikistan, was unable to fly to Khodzhand from Dushanbe airport. At 1530, at the airport, the president, after holding talks with the representatives of the [word indistinct] of Tajikistan, an agreement was formulated. Representatives from the Supreme Soviet of the republic and the government also signed the agreement.

Nabiyev then delivered a speech in which he asked that the Supreme Soviet Presidium and the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan consider his application for resignation. Nabiyev's resignation was accepted and the decision of the Supreme Soviet Presidium was made official. In line with this the cabinet of ministers adopted a decision on the maintenance, service, and protection of the former president of the Republic of Tajikistan.

Later in the evening a news conference was held in the press center of the Supreme Soviet of Tajikistan, at which Akbarsho Iskandarov, chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Tajikistan, and Dzhamshed Karimov, acting prime minister of the Republic of Tajikistan answered questions put by journalists.

Dzhamshed Karimov stated that Nabiyev is currently residing in a safe and secure place.

Presidium Accepts Resignation; Dushanbe Quiet

LD0709181592 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1803 GMT 7 Sep 92

[By KHOVAR-TASS correspondent Zainiddin Nasridinov]

[Text] Dushanbe September 7 TASS—The emergency session of Tajik Parliament's top body—the Presidium—accepted President Rakhman Nabiyev's appeal of resignation on Monday [7 September]. "Taking the existing political situation into consideration, and to stop the bloodshed in my country"—Nabiyev wrote in his statement—"I resign of my own free will".

In an earlier development, Nabiyev's attempt to flee Dushanbe and reach the city of Khodjent on Monday, was blocked by Tajik youngsters who demanded that the president resigned. After a brief discussion with Tajik Cabinet and Parliament representatives Nabiyev announced his resignation.

Nabiyev was promised he will retain his dacha (mansion), his automobile and his bodyguards. A ministerial statute ruled Nabiyev will be given a pension.

According to reports arriving from Dushanbe, the city was quiet on Monday evening.

Supreme Soviet Transfers Powers to Chairman

LD0709182892 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Tajik 1700 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Decision of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of Tajikistan on the resignation of Rakhman Nabiyev, president of Tajikistan]

[Text] The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Tajikistan, having assessed the application of President Rakhman Nabiyev for his resignation, resolves as follows:

The application of President Rakhman Nabiyev for his resignation is accepted. In accordance with Article 124 of the Constitution of the Republic of Tajikistan, the powers of the president are to be transferred to the chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Tajikistan.

The resignation of Rakhman Nabiyev, president of Tajikistan, will be submitted to a session of the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Tajikistan.

The Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Tajikistan is instructed to settle, in accordance with the law, the issues of material provision, security, and technical services [as heard] of Rakhman Nabiyev.

[Signed] Akbarsho Iskandarov, chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Tajikistan

[Dated] 7 September 1992

Grants Pension, Housing, Protection

LD0709154192 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Tajik 1700 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Decision of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Tajikistan on provision of services and protection of the former president of Tajikistan]

[Text] In accordance with the application of Rakhman Nabiyev, president of the Republic of Tajikistan, on his resignation; in order to provide services and protection for Rakhman Nabiyev, former president of Tajikistan; and in accordance with a decision of the Supreme Soviet of Tajikistan dated 15 December 1990 on the provision of services and protection for the president of Tajikistan; the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Tajikistan resolves as follows:

1. A pension is to be fixed for Rakhman Nabiyev, former president of Tajikistan, in accordance with the aforementioned decision of the Supreme Soviet of Tajikistan dated 15 December 1990.

2. A place of residence [words indistinct] and transportation are to be provided.

3. (?The security) of Rakhman Nabiyev, former president of Tajikistan, and that of his family is to be entrusted to the National Security Committee of the Republic of Tajikistan.

[Signed] Jamshed Karimov, first deputy premier of the Cabinet of the Republic of Tajikistan, Dushanbe

[Dated] 7 September 1992.

Background to President's Resignation

Nabiyev Signs Emergency Decree

LD0509120492 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1115 GMT 5 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Galina Gridneva]

[Text] Dushanbe, 5 Sep—A state of emergency has been imposed on the territory of Kurgan-Tyube Oblast in connection with the bloody clashes still continuing there between two opposing groups. The relevant decree was signed, at the insistence of the Presidium of the republic's Supreme Soviet, by President Rakhman Nabiyev, whose whereabouts remain unknown to the republic's inhabitants. Journalists were informed of this today by Khodzhiakbar Turodzhonzoda, Kazi of the Muslims of Tajikistan and people's deputy of the republic. He said that battles are taking place in the oblast center, where housing areas are being subjected to massive shelling, and also on the outskirts of the city. Populated points near the city also were being drawn into the armed conflict.

The Kazi accused "Kulyab irregulars of exacerbating the fratricidal war". These are some of the supporters of the

president who arrived at the scene of the conflict several days ago. He noted that "the efforts of the units of the local special-purpose militia force are not yet producing results because it is not strong enough". However, when asked by the ITAR-TASS correspondent whether he would admit of the possibility of the Russian Army unit stationed in Kurgan-Tyube being brought in as a buffer force, he gave a sharply negative reply.

"This would only exacerbate the situation, would involve the Army in a a protracted conflict, and might provoke its participation on one side or the other," he said. The government of the republic is holding talks with representatives of the Russian Defense Ministry on transferring several dozen units of military equipment to the republic's internal forces," he noted.

Forces Block Escape Plan

LD0709123292 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1216 GMT 7 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Galina Gridneva]

[Text] Dushanbe September 7 TASS—President of Tajikistan Rakhman Nabiyev was forced to resign on Monday [7 September] after he was detained in the Dushanbe airport by groups of armed opposition. The fate of the president is unknown, but opposition said he "has no right to live".

Nabiyev and a group of members of government arrived at the airport to fly to Leninabad for negotiations with parliamentarians of Leninabad and Kulyab regions who refuse to attend a parliamentary session which is to discuss the latest developments in the Central Asian republic.

Fire was several times opened on the presidential convoy of cars on its way to the airport, witnesses said.

In the airport, armed opposition militants detained Nabiyev and his entourage in a V.I.P. hall. The opposition demanded his resignation. Some time later a representative of the opposition said the resignation statement was signed.

Roads leading to the airport are blocked by military hardware of a local infantry division, as well as by the Tajik KGB and interior forces.

The organisers of the seizure said that "Nabiyev brought so much evil and (shed) blood to the Tajik people that he has no right to live".

Officials Issue Repeated Calls For Resignation

Vice Premier's Appeal

MK0709151592 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 5 Sep 92 pp 1, 3

[Interview with First Vice Premier Dzhamshed Karimov, acting head of the government, by Oleg Panfilov on 4 September, place not given: "'If Only the President Would Agree to Resign...'—Acting Head of the Tajikistan Government, First Vice Premier Dzhanshed Karimov on the Situation in the Republic"]

[Text] [Karimov] Events in progress are causing alarm, and this alarm is explained by the fact that, up to now, political dialogue between all the altercating sides has been unsuccessful. I believe that the main reason is that today, the president is not carrying out the consolidation function which could secure a peaceful solution to the problem. I am convinced that we will not solve the problem through any kind of armed skirmishes, and this will lead only to the self-destruction of our people.

[Panfilov] How do you evaluate the president's current position? Is it conducive to the stabilization or, on the contrary, the whipping up of the confrontation?

[Karimov] I think that the apparent neutrality which he is demonstrating (what I mean is that the president avoids meetings with the government, the Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the leadership of the oblasts)—this position, whether he wants it or not, leads to confrontation between the sides.

[Panfilov] Whose was the chief role in destabilizing the situation over the last three months, or where does the main reason for this reside?

[Karimov] I think that the root cause resides in the fact that we do not have a perfect constitution, and the one which laid claim to democracy led to anarchy, to the destruction of all power structures, and to the appearance in each city, rayon, or kishlak of its own micro-chief [mikrovozhd]. "Chiefism" [vozhdizm] at all levels led to our losing control of the republic, and, taking due account of the transition to a market footing for economic management, we adopted, in principle, a whole series of decisions giving enterprises and organizations freedom in the creation of commercial structures. However, the unpreparedness on the part of organs of power for the new forms of economic management and political leadership, in my view, led to destabilization. Again, I would like to make it clear that here, much of the president's guilt and that of the Cabinet of Ministers Presidium consists in the fact that we did not seize the initiative in the sphere of intensive talks and the search for compromises with all groups and movements participating in the conflict. Apart from that, there were a number of incompetent decisions on the issuing of weapons, and this prompted an avalanche-like process of arming the people for self-defense, and as a result of all this, we have virtually arrived at civil war.

[Panfilov] Can you agree with or refute the view of the opposition supporters that the conflict is motivated by the desire of the nomenklatura in power to conduct privatization to their own advantage?

[Karimov] This is not quite the right approach because it is wrong to evaluate all power structures on the basis of single isolated incidents. Today, all members of the

Cabinet of Ministers Presidium are prepared to resign if this will help to stabilize the situation. Therefore, I do not think that this is the most important thing. It is just that the loss of control over all power structures, including the prosecutor's office and militia structures, led to a situation where people with no conscience failed to think of the people's interests, but rather they used the moment to conduct a policy of "grab-what-you-can expropriation" ["prikhvatizatsiya"]—in part, these were former members of the nomenklatura.

[Panfilov] Could you comment on today's (4 September) IZVESTIYA interview with Rakhman Nabiyev?

[Karimov] First, it is contradictory: on the one hand, he talks about how he is in control of the situation, and on the other he cannot speak on radio and television because he is not granted access to these places. I would also like to say that Nabiyev is accusing me of allegedly breaking with Russia. I did indeed send a telegram to President Yeltsin at the behest of the presidium of the Cabinet of Ministers and Supreme Soviet in which I requested that he should not yield to the persuasions of President Nabiyev to use Russian troops which are on Tajikistan territory to resolve the conflict. I can explain why I did this: I believe that the appearance of Russian soldiers could prompt an extremely negative retaliatory reaction, and what is more the peaceful population would suffer through this—above all, the Russian-speaking population.

[Panfilov] You said that the republic constitution is not perfect. Now both the legislative and executive authorities are against Nabiyev. They have expressed no confidence in him. Judging by the reaction of the population, the inhabitants of Tajikistan do not understand the president's position either. What do you think should be done now? Who is in power now? What will be Nabiyev's fate?

[Karimov] I stress that in discussing this question we must take account of the norms and laws operating on republic territory. It is for this reason that we very much want the Supreme Soviet session to take place today (4 September). Unfortunately, by dint of a whole number of reasons and because of a lack of understanding by many of the deputies, the session will probably not take place. However, the Supreme Soviet should have convinced the president irrefutably that he cannot carry out his functions and that all of our people are suffering from this. If this does not succeed, then I will submit a proposal, whether it goes through or not, the essence of which is to reconvene the presidiums of the Supreme Soviet and Cabinet of Ministers. We will have to invite the leadership of all the oblast executive committees, the leaders of the parties and movements, to try once again to summon President Nabiyev to this meeting for an open and direct discussion on his future fate. If only the president would agree to resign, then in this case he could be protected from attacks. He would preserve all his privileges, and he could choose not to leave his homeland. If the conflict increases, there will be the most tragic consequences not only for the people, but for him personally. The main thing is that he should understand this.

Iskandarov Holds News Conference

LD0409205292 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Tajik 1700 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Excerpt] [Correspondent] As we have said, the 16th session of the Supreme Soviet was not convened today. Akbarsho Iskandarov, chairman of the Supreme Soviet of Tajikistan, held a news conference this afternoon. The news conference was attended by representatives of the republican press and foreign journalists as well as the correspondents of the republic's Voice and Vision [radio and TV]. Akbarsho Iskandarov answered numerous question from reporters on the current political and economic situation in the Republic and on the statement by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and the Presidium of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic, which expresses a lack of confidence in President Rakhmon Nabiyev. This statement has also been published in the press. Akbarsho Iskandarov also expressed his views on the 16th session, scheduled for today and which will now be convened on 5 September, and on the talks which he had with the president today and yesterday. He said, among other things:

[Begin Iskandarov recording] Today, due to [words indistinct], many people's deputies could not meet. The situation is very complicated and tense in Kurgan-Tyube Oblast. That is why we were not able to bring many people together.

On the other hand, we wanted the committees and groups to start work [words indistinct] and to have a meeting with the deputies (?who had) gathered. [words indistinct] I spoke with the president 10 minutes ago. We discussed the declaration of a state of emergency and the curfew in Bakhtar, Vakhsh, and Kalininabad Rayons and in the city of Kurgan-Tyube. He is in the garrison of the city of Dushanbe. The issues which we discussed had to do with the fact that members of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, members of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic, and ministers from the government have gathered and that we have to meet [words indistinct].

The president, whether he has fled or not, is the president according to the Constitution, and I am obliged to talk to him to resolve this or that issue. How he solves them [words indistinct] is another issue; today he has to be answerable [words indistinct]. Today opposing groups [words indistinct]. One supports the president, while the other is opposed to the president. I think the president, before he resigns; all these opposition groups, or the leaders of these opposition groups, political parties, and organizations; and representatives of oblasts and rayons should gather around one table, discuss this issue [words indistinct] and guarantees should be given that with the departure of the president, the political and economic situation of the Republic will improve. This should be done for the interests of all. If they can all arrive at a resolution, the situation will improve. [passage omitted]

Says Nabiyev 'Must Resign'

LD0409205592 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1838 GMT 4 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Excerpts] Moscow, 4 Sep—"The president of Tajikistan must resign since he is not in command of the sociopolitical situation in the Republic and is not able to control the situation and bring an end to the bloodshed." This has been revealed today in Dushanbe by Akbarsho Iskandarov, speaker of the Tajikistan parliament. At a news conference for local and foreign journalists, he underlined that he was expressing the opinion, put down in a joint statement, of the republic's Presidium and cabinet of ministers. This was reported from Dushanbe by a TASS correspondent.

Iskandarov underlined that a final decision on this issue should be made by the Supreme Soviet session, which failed to open today because there was no quorum. If the session fails to take place tomorrow as well, or if it does not end in a unanimous opinion, then, according to the speaker, other political solutions will be found. This could include a referendum on confidence in the president.

According to him, only the voluntary resignation of President Nabiyev will contribute to reconciling the groupings and reaching national accord in the Republic. [passage omitted]

The head of the parliament ruled out the possibility of a military interference by the neighboring Turkic republics and by Russia, explaining that this would require the consent of the sovereign republic.

Kurbon Mirzoaliyev, Executive Committee chairman from Kulyab Oblast (south Tajikistan), sees it differently. He has called on Russian President Boris Yeltsin "to use all the influence Russia has in the CIS to stop the unbounded lawlessness of extremists and zealots" and "to put a stop to the violence and human rights violations in Tajikistan."

It looks as though Mirzoaliyev's appeal has been heard. It is hard to interpret otherwise, the statement issued by the presidents of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, and Uzbekistan which was circulated in Moscow today. In it the leaders of the four republics promised to "the fraternal Tajik people" their assistance "in stabilizing the situation in the country, in consolidating its sovereignty and territorial integrity, and in securing the safety of the southern borders of the CIS." The document also states that the developments in the former Soviet Republic threaten "the security of our states and peoples" and disrupt "political stability in the region." [passage omitted]

Salvation Committee Demands Action

LD0509134192 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Tajik 1200 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Appeal of the Committee for the Salvation of the Homeland of the Kurgan-Tyube Oblast to the Supreme Soviet, Cabinet of Ministers of the republic, people's deputies, and all the people of Tajikistan]

[Text] We were astonished after hearing the television and radio news conference yesterday by Supreme Soviet Chairman Akbarsho Iskandarov. He stated that this [words indistinct] can be relieved of his post only by constitutional means.

We put it to the Supreme Soviet Presidium and to Akbarsho Iskandarov himself that that person is the cause of all the pain and suffering of all the people in the republic. Listen, Akbarsho Iskandarov and the high ranks of the Supreme Soviet! Unless you assemble the deputies who did not attend the session it will be too late; unless you discuss and examine the situation there will be few people left in Kurgan-Tyube.

Is this [words indistinct] not enough? Is the cry of tens of thousands of orphaned children not enough? You must with such degree of [words indistinct] understand that the prayers of these suffering people will also grip you. Do not hide in your houses. What constitution are you talking about? It is not that constitution which has unfortunately shed the (?tears) and blood of the people for the sake of the personal interests of the high-ranking figures of the (?one-man party) and the officials of the totalitarian regime. For whom is this constitution necessary? Is it for those who shed the blood of [word indistinct]?

One request: If there is even one person representing the people among you, if one of you has genuinely drunk the milk of a loving mother, listen for one moment to the cries of the mothers, the cries of the hungry, the barefoot and orphaned children and the [word indistinct] of the Vakhshonzamin [Kurgan-Tyube oblast]. We ask you to urgently [words indistinct] to the cries of our esteemed mothers, the cries of the children, the elderly.

Addressing the other servants of Nabiyev we state [words indistinct] you have destroyed the homes of the unfortunate people. Tomorrow your homes will also burn this way.

Esteemed Akbarsho! Today life in the oblast has been (?paralyzed). We decisively ask you that it is still not too late to act courageously and take a decisive step toward the normalization of the political situation in the republic. Otherwise, you will bear the blame for the death of these people.

In appealing to all the people of the republic [words indistinct]. Do not permit these blood-thirsty [words indistinct] to shed the blood of the hard-working and suffering people of Vakhshonzamin and find ways to bring peace and comfort to the people of Vakhshonzamin, and establish peace and calm on this land.

[Signed] The Committee for the Salvation of the Homeland of the Kurgan-Tyube oblast

Muslim Leader Demands Resignation

LD0509185492 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1700 GMT 5 Sep 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Excerpts] On the situation in Tajikistan: The presidential palace in the republican capital has been freed and transferred to the protection of internal affairs bodies. This was helped by negotiations, but the epicenter of confrontation in the republic has not thereby been eliminated. It has shifted to the south, to Kurgan-Tyube Oblast, where fighting in which even artillery is involved has flared up.

The whereabouts of republican President Rakhman Nabiyev, who introduced a state of emergency in this region, is being kept secret for the time being.

The population of Tajikistan, tired of the protracted confrontation and power vacuum, had pinned its hopes for stabilization on the opening of the extraordinary session of the Supreme Soviet, but today, too, it did not open for the same reason—lack of quorum.

Chairman Akbarsho Iskandarov of the republican Supreme Soviet described the current situation as extremely serious, threatening to escalate into civil war. However, in essence, this is already under way. The blood of Tajiks is currently being shed in Kurgan-Tyube Oblast. The streets and residential districts of the oblast center Kurgan-Tyube have come to form the front line between the conflicting sides. The number of killed and wounded is growing. The majority of industrial enterprises are not in operation, and an acute shortage of food is being felt.

Yesterday, there was an attack on the oblast hospital. One of the conflicting sides took medical staff and medical supplies in the direction of the town of Kalininabad, evidently to render aid to their wounded.

In spite of the senseless bloodshed, none of the groups is thinking of disarming.

[Being recording] [A. Turadzhon-Zoda, people's deputy and head of Tajik Muslims] This is virtually civil war.

[Correspondent] What do you think the way out is?

[Turadzhon-Zoda] The way out? First of all, the aggressor has to be forced to leave here. The remainder of the presidential guards who came to Kurgan-Tyube from Kulyab and are killing people have to be forced to leave so that they don't return.

[Correspondent] There are very many weapons in peoples' hands—what should be done about the border? Who should protect it and how?

[Turadzhon-Zoda] The border has to be protected, for the time being the border has to be protected by Commonwealth forces. I am in complete agreement with this. Unfortunately, not all the weapons and ammunition are coming from the other side of the border. [end recording]

Supporters Urged To Take Up Arms

LD0609213792 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 2100 GMT 6 Sep 92

[Text] In Tajikistan, conservative leaders in Kulyab supporting President Rakhman Nabiyev have called on the people to take up arms against the opposition which controls Kurgan-Tyube. That city in the south of the republic has already become a scene of fierce clashes between the supporters of the president and the opposition which demands his resignation.

In a declaration read out on republican radio, the leader of Kulyab, Rustam Abdurakhimov, has said that weapons will be handed out to those who will fight with participants in unlawful actions in Kurgan-Tyube, where a state of emergency has been announced.

Background Noted on Conflict; Supreme Soviet

Situation Updated; Session Postponed

LD0509085392 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0720 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Text] We have just received a report from ITAR-TASS about the fact that the opening of the session of the Tajik Supreme Soviet remains problematic. What can our correspondent in Dushanbe Mikhail Nikulin add to this? Please go ahead:

[Nikulin] Good morning. Yes, yesterday, because a large number of deputies did not arrive in Dushanbe, the session did not open. The absence of the elected representatives of the people can be explained in different ways. Some are afraid of traveling to Dushanbe which has become a dangerous place in terms of criminal activity. Others are afraid of taking part in the work of the session and taking on responsibility at this troubled time. Others, mainly deputies from Kurgan-Tyube oblast, simply cannot get to the capital because of the exchanges of fires in the oblast center. However, I will talk about that a little later.

As far as I know, yesterday evening a group of deputies did arrive from the south. They were brought in by helicopter. So it is possible that there will be a quorum today. However, at the moment, a session of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet is going on. I do not know what is being discussed there, and none of the journalists know. They have not even let them—or us rather—into the Supreme Soviet building yet. Generally, the session has not opened yet and it is not clear when this will happen, but we hope the session will start work today.

Here is the latest alarming news from the region of the armed conflict, the oblast center of Kurgan-Tyube in the

south of the republic. Firing between two hostile groupings has been going on here for the fourth day. Today one can say that this is not just exchanges of fire, but a major armed conflict.

I have learned from the commander of the 201st motor rifle division, General (Oshorov), whose regiment is billeted in this oblast center, that an electrical substation which feeds electricity to the city was blown up yesterday. Half the town is without lighting and electricity. A gas pipeline has been put out of operation. The city has no gas supply. Enterprises and shops are not working, although soldiers on APCs are trying to deliver milk and bread to them. However, because of the situation at enterprises producing foodstuffs, the threat of starvation looms.

The number of fatalities is already running into hundreds. There is no one to clear the bodies which lie in irrigation canals, doorways and just in the street, or floating in canals. There is the danger of the outbreak of an epidemic.

The regiment based in the town, as I was saying, is not interfering in the conflict. The only thing the servicemen can do is take in and accommodate, in their garrison, thousands of refugees, and somehow disengage the hostile factions using tanks and APCs. They are not authorized to take any effective measures; they have not received orders to that effect. This civil war that has begun is playing into the hands of some people in the republic.

Another piece of news from Dushanbe: Yesterday evening the presidential palace was cleared in accordance with an agreement reached between the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and a group of persons who had seized the residence of the government and the president. The first detachments of militia guards went in there today. That's the latest somber news from Tajikistan.

Deputies Urged to Assemble

LD0509103492 Dushanbe Radio Dushanbe Network in Tajik 0500 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Appeal by group of people's deputies of the Republic of Tajikistan to all those people's deputies who did not attend the 16th session of the Supreme Soviet]

[Text] Esteemed peoples deputies! As you know, a very (?dangerous) situation has now arisen in the republic. The existence of the Tajik state is threatened. In Kurgan-Tyube Oblast people are being killed hourly and innocent people are suffering. The republic headquarters, under the direction of the president of Tajikistan for the disarming of opposition groups which was set up at the 15th session of the Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Tajikistan, is not functioning.

Everyone in the republic, including those deputies who have come to the session [words indistinct] the statement of the Supreme Soviet of Tajikistan and the government of Tajikistan from 2 September of the current year in which the situation is being [words indistinct]. We support this statement.

In our opinion, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet acted correctly in convening this session. Unfortunately, only 80 people's deputies attended this session. A majority of the 221 people's deputies did not attend the session.

In response to the situation that has arisen and irrespective of the failure of people's deputies to attend the session, we appeal to all people's deputies with the request that they urgently come to Dushanbe so that we can assess the situation together and find a way out of this serious crisis which has gripped our republic so as to gain in future the respect and confidence of the people. Every person to whom this land and the life of the people who inhabit it are sacred ought to respond to our request. Each one of us must understand that no individual and no force other than the people's deputies can adopt decrees, because only we and no one else is authorized to tackle the situation by constitutional means.

We are very surprised that Rakhman Nabiyev, president of the republic, did not attend the session. He probably understands the reason for this and we urge him to come to the Supreme Soviet building and meet with the people's deputies.

Rally Calls for CIS Intervention

LD0509071192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0610 GMT 5 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Galina Gridneva]

[Excerpt] Dushanbe, 5 Sep—[passage omitted] NARODNAYA GAZETA reports today that many thousands of people participated today in a rally in Kulyab oblast, at which parliamentarians totally supported the protest of the local authorities against the "appeasement policy" of the leadership of the Supreme Soviet and the government of national reconciliation, referring to the events in Dushanbe as a "palace coup."

Speakers called for the rapid deployment of CIS peacekeeping forces within the republic. At the same time, NARODNAYA GAZETA claims, the Kulyab oblast executive committee adopted an emergency decision to create new armed formations and declared a call-up of servicemen.

Ethnic Communities Appeal to CIS, UN, CSCE

LD0709101392 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0900 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Text] The coordinating council of ethnic communities in Tajikistan has appealed to CIS leaders, the United Nations, the CSCE, and the world public to prevent an escalation of the civil war in Tajikistan, to come out in decisive support of its system as the sole guarantee for human rights and the republic's sovereignty, and to

secure an undertaking from the Commonwealth members. In the present situation and against the background of the objective difficulties being experienced by Tajikistan, the document stresses, forces have surfaced which, behind a mask of political demagogy, are trying to withdraw Tajikistan from the CIS and make it a bridgehead for destructive forces in the Central Asian region. In its appeal, the council of ethnic communities asks the UN Security Council and the CSCE to send experts to Tajikistan, as a matter of urgency, so that the world community can monitor the situation there and check on human rights.

Opposition Parties Send Letter to Yeltsin

LD0609025492 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0000 GMT 6 Sep 92

[Text] Deploying CIS troops in Tajikistan is an idea supported only by President Rakhman Nabiyev, who is not supported by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet or the government of the republic, leaders of Tajikistan's opposition parties say in a letter to Boris Yeltsin. They also remark in the letter that President Nabiyev's rule is, to a large extent, the reason for the tense situation in the republic and has led to fratricidal conflicts in certain regions. The opposition leaders gave assurances that the issue of President Nabiyev's resignation will be resolved only through constitutional means.

Fighting Ends; Situation 'Critical'

OW0609162992 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1550 GMT 6 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Fighting has ceased today among various armed groups in the town of Kurgan-Tyube in the south of Tajikistan. However, according to the chairman of the Regional Executive Committee, Nurali Kurbonov, the situation remains "critical."

Kurbonov told our correspondent who today visited the part of town where clashes had taken place that he was still uncertain about the political position of those who referred to themselves as "representatives of the peoples of Kulab Region" and demanded that the people of Kurgan-Tyube leave the town. He said that by now the town had been left by 20,000 out of Kurgan-Tyube's 70,000 inhabitants.

The building of the Kurgan-Tyube Regional Executive Committee is at the moment being controlled by a "combat detachment of the opposition forces," one of whose commanders, Muhammadrasul Salomov, a member of the Revival Islamic Party, told our correspondent that the detachment is over 1,000-strong. The men are mainly armed with rifles but also have some artillery and one armored personnel carrier. According to Salomov, the detachment consists of members of all opposition organizations, including the Revival Islamic Party, the Democratic Party, and the Rastokhez movement, and also has people belonging to no political party.

The detachment flatly rejects the idea of Rakhman Nabiyev remaining in his post as President of Tajikistan, accusing him of having failed to take control of the situation in the republic.

The Kurgan-Tyube Regional Executive Committee has begun forming a regular guard corps for the region, about 1,000 strong.

Cease-Fire Broken

LD0509214592 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 2000 GMT 5 Sep 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Our first report is from Tajikistan: The situation in the republic remains extremely tense. According to the meager information from a number of new agencies, battles are being fought in Kurgan-Tyube, in which automatic weapons and artillery are being used.

In the opinion of some of Tajikistan's leaders, the cease-fire has been broken by some third force. In turn, local observers note that so far, the situation is so ill-defined that as yet it seems impossible to determine the political allegiance of the armed groups.

[Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian at 1930 GMT on 5 September adds: "Forces supporting Tajik President Rakhman Nabiyev have further strengthened their positions in the fighting in Kurgan-Tyube city with the arms and ammunition they have received from the former Soviet Army base.

["Radio Dushanbe, reporting from the city of Kurgan-Tyube, announced that intense fighting between the government forces supporting Nabiyev and their opponents is continuing in that city and people are in the process of getting out of Kurgan-Tyube. According to Dushanbe Radio, the city's gas has been cut and parts of the city were without water and electricity on 4 September night."]

Turkmenistan

Niyazov Establishes 'Combined-Arms Army'

OW0809002792 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1618 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Turkmen President Saparmurad Niyazov has instituted a separate combined-arms army, appointing Lt.-Gen. Nikolay Kormiltsev its commander. Up till now Kormiltsev has commanded the 36th army corps stationed in Turkmenistan.

Officials in the Turkmen Defense Ministry have informed our correspondent that the new army, which will incorporate various units stationed in the republic, is expected to become the nucleus of the future Turkmen armed forces. Ministry officials specially emphasized, however, that the president's decision by no means contradicts the Turkmen-Russian treaty on armed forces stationed in Turkmenistan signed on July 31. Russian citizens will be serving in the Turkmen army as well.

INTERFAX note: At present some 14,000 Russian citizens hold commissions in the land forces in Turkmenistan. According to some estimates, about 80% of commissioned officers' posts in them have to date been filled.

Turkmen Deputy Defense Minister Bekjan Niyazov has told our correspondent that 30 school-leavers, all of them Turkmens, will shortly be leaving for Turkey, where they will be studying at military colleges for five years. About 100 men will this year be enrolled in combined-arms military colleges in Russia.

By Niyazov's decision a military parade is going to be held on Independence Day (October 27). This, in the President's opinion, will demonstrate to the world "the stability, loyalty, and discipline of the army, and its unity with the people and leadership of Turkmenistan."

Turkey To Train Ground Force's Officer Cadets

PM0409152192 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Sep 92 Morning Edition p 1

[NEGA report: "Turkmen Cadets Receive Military Education in Turkey"]

[Text] In accordance with an intergovernmental accord, the first group of 30 young men from Ashgabat and other Turkmen cities will fly out 8 September to Ankara to study in a Turkish military school which trains officers for the ground forces.

A group of 60 men from neighboring Uzbekistan have already commenced their studies at this establishment. As the republic's Defense Ministry reported, the school's training program extends over a period of five years, including a four-year general course and a year's specialization. The Turkish side has undertaken to meet all expenses for the Turkmen cadets' study and living expenses in Ankara.

Presidential Position on CIS Talks Outlined

OW0409192592 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1802 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Report prepared by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from "Presidential Bulletin"—transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The presidential press service told "IF" [INTERFAX] that Turkmenistan will participate in the forthcoming meeting of the heads of the CIS states in Bishkek.

It was pointed out that Turkmenistan does not give up the documents signed earlier and the proclaimed policy of "open doors" and "positive neutrality" and at the same time it "wants to see what will be proposed in Bishkek for discussion". If anybody, and in particular Kazakhstan, will make attempts to reanimate the old structures playing the role of central control bodies then Turkmenistan will not sign such a document. Making this statement, the press service mentions an expanded sessi/n of the Cabinet of Ministers headed by Niyazov on September 3.

According to the press service, the President is against that part of the agreement on collective security which supposes settling of regional conflicts by the CIS peacekeeping forces as he believes that only political means can be used in this case. Turkmenistan is not against collective security if there is danger for the CIS states from outside.

Reliable sources told "IF" that Niyazov expressed criticism to the idea of a single information space saying that the mass media poorly reflects the positive changes in the republic and pays no attention to the initiatives of Turkmenistan in the framework of the Commonwealth. The presidential press service could neither refute nor confirm this information.

Niyazov Meets With U.S. Senator Cranston

OW0709211592 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1818 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] "There is no opposition to the current government", President Saparmurad Niyazov, of Turkmenistan, said at a meeting in Ashgabat during his meeting with US politician Alan Cranston on Friday [4 September]. The President said that Western diplomats visiting Turkmenia "invariably look into local democracy and give advice as to how best to arrange it, although they no [as reveiced] nothing of the local situation, the level of Turkmenistan's development or the customs of its people".

Uzbekistan

Karimov on Tajik-Afghan Border Situation

LD0709202692 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1700 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Report by Sh. Ganiyeva from Uzbekistan; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] A news conference given by Islam Karimov, president of the Republic of Uzbekistan, has just ended in Tashkent. The president of Uzbekistan expressed serious concern about the grave danger of civil and ethnic confrontation, anarchy, and chaos spreading throughout the entire Central Asian region. In connection with this, Islam Karimov sent an official statement to UN Secretary General Butrus-Ghali. It speaks of a need to send a UN special commission to Tajikistan promptly and to adopt urgent measures to stabilize the situation in the neighboring state. Answering questions from journalists, the president of Uzbekistan said:

[Begin Karimov recording] On no account can we allow the existing borders between Afghanistan and Tajikistan to be breached and destroyed, for we are firmly convinced that this border is not merely a border between Afghanistan and Tajikistan, but the border of the CIS countries. [end recording]

Answering a question on what has been specifically done in order to prevent the escalation of tension in the Republic of Uzbekistan, President Karimov gave the assurance:

[Begin Karimov recording] The Uzbeks residing in Tajikistan are our own brothers; they are our blood brothers. We will worry about them, but we will not allow a confrontation to emerge suddenly between Uzbeks and Tajiks, who have been living together for centuries, for thousands of years. Somebody may want this, but I assure you again that while I am the leader of Uzbekistan I will never allow this. We will have another Karabakh if we have a different approach. [end recording]

Karimov Notes Afghan Interference

LD0809092192 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 0800 GMT 8 Sep 92

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Uzbek President Karimov is deeply concerned over the situation in Tajikistan. In an interview with the Paris newspaper LIBERATION he called the situation in the neighboring republic a time-bomb which could provoke a conflict similar to the Karabakh conflict, only one hundred times worse.

Karimov has rather considerable grounds for such gloomy forecasts, first of all, because of the influence of neighboring Afghanistan which is the source of weapons, including Stinger rockets, and also drugs, arriving in Tajikistan.

Having noted that power in Tajikistan is in the hands of fundamentalists who have 15,000 armed fighters, Karimov asks: Just imagine that the Afghans decide to bring their forces into Tajikistan. Who will defend that country? In addition, 1.3 million Uzbeks live there, accounting for 25 percent of the population.

What the development of events in the former Soviet republic could bring is demonstrated graphically, in my view, by the following report from Afghanistan where on 7 September, in Kabul's central park, a public execution was held for the first time in 20 years, carrying out a sentence by an Islamic court. People are being executed a little too readily—a further eight thieves and murderers are also in line.

Appeals to Butrus-Ghali for Stability

LD0809101892 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0940 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Text] Tashkent September 8 TASS—"Central Asia must not be allowed to become a new seat of tension and a target of geopolitical gambles," says the message by Uzbek President Islam Karimov to U.N. Secretary-General Butrus-Ghali, published here today.

The document expresses alarm in connection with the events in neighbouring Tajikistan where, Karimov believes, "the official state bodies have forfeited the powers vested in them." The constitutional system is in danger, as well as the possibility of further democratic reforms. Civil and ethnic strife, anarchy and chaos are looming over the entire region. All the peoples of Central Asia are growing increasingly alarmed by the fact that arms and ammunition are being smuggled into Tajikistan with the direct connivance and assistance of neighbouring states.

Karimov believes it is particularly important now to perpetuate the presently existing borders and the territorial integrity of Central Asian states. Tajikistan's present borders with neighbouring states "are at the same time immutable and inviolable borders of Central Asian states". Karimov believes there are "external forces, wishing to sow and nurture seeds of national strife, political and civil confrontation in the region". He calls the world community's attention to the impermissibility of any interference in the domestic affirs of Tajikistan.

The message asks the secretary-general to urgently send a special U.N commission to study the situaion on the spot and to take urgent steps to stabilise the situation and ensure lasting peace in the region.

Armenia

Ministries Protest Turkish Airspace Violation

NC0709154992 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1400 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Report by Zaven Karapetyan from a news conference held at the Armenian Foreign Ministry on 7 September—recorded]

[Text] [Karapetyan] As already has been reported, a Turkish aircraft violated Armenia's airspace at 1940 yesterday. A news conference was held at the Armenian Foreign Ministry today to brief reporters. Deputy Foreign Minister Gevorg Gazinyan circulated a ministry statement giving details of the incident. In violating Armenia's airspace, the crew of the Turkish aircraft contacted the Zvartnots Airport dispatcher and requested permission to land. Asked why the aircraft intended to land at Yerevan, the crew replied that the representatives of (?ICAO) and a group of Turkish [word indistinct] were on board and that they planned to conduct a verification [word indistinct] on Armenian territory in accordance with [word indistinct] treaty. Asked if they had proper permission, the crew replied that there was standing diplomatic authorization and gave its number. There was no reply, however, when asked if the crew had any document showing consent from Armenian authorities for the flight into Armenia. Despite that, the aircraft tried to enter the airport zone three times and insisted that the dispatcher give permission. Because the dispatcher had no knowledge of any official permission, he forbade the Turkish aircraft from entering the zone and landing. After an hour-long, unsuccessful attempt, the aircraft left Armenian airspace and flew toward the west.

Mr. Gazinyan then said:

[Gazinyan] The Armenian Foreign Ministry is authorized to state that the [word indistinct] of Armenian (?airspace) without the knowledge of Armenian authorities is a gross violation of the obligations undertaken by Turkey under the [word indistinct] treaty. As for the Turkish side's (?attempts) to justify its demand for landing at Yerevan airport on the basis of the agreement on conventional arms reduction in Europe, that agreement envisages that any country which intends to conduct such [words indistinct] in another country party to that treaty must inform the other side about its intentions and [words indistinct]. These provisions have been violated. We received no official information about any such intention by Turkey. Turkey's reference to diplomatic permission also is [word indistinct], because by itself such permission cannot form the basis for permission to enter and land.

The Armenian Foreign Ministry has sent a protest note to the Turkish Foreign Ministry and [word indistinct] has called on Turkish authorities to refrain from similar gross violations of our independence in the future, for they might have grave consequences for our bilateral relations. At the same time, taking the opportunity, the note reiterated our Republic's readiness to develop good-neighborly relations with Turkey.

Defense Ministry Issues Statement

LD0709160592 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1408 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Report from Yerevan by correspondent Khoryun Khomaryan]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan issued a number of decrees today on stepping up the fight against corruption; on stepping up the fight against the theft of state, national, and the personal property of citizens; and on measures for stepping up the fight against organized crime.

Today, the Armenian Defense Ministry delivered a statement on the violation of the air space of the Republic of Armenia by a Turkish cargo plane at 1900 on 6 September. As is known the Turkish pilot said he violated the borders; he asked for permission to land at Yerevan's Zvartnots airport because allegedly he had representatives of (?ICAO) on board, who were monitoring the implementation of the agreement on the reduction of conventional weapons. The Armenian Foreign Ministry stated that the leadership of the republic did not receive any official request from (?ICAO) about their meeting. Under international agreement, such requests should be made at least two days before the inspection.

Prime Minister Asks Turkey for Grain Loan

NC0509114192 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1730 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] Armenian Prime Minister Khosrov Arutyunyan has sent a letter to Turkish Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel requesting that Turkey loan 100,000 tonnes of grain to Armenia.

In briefing reporters about the content of the letter, Vladimir Manoyan, head of the Council of Ministers Press Service, said that the request is being made due to the prolonged disruption of railway traffic due to the complex political situation in Georgia. As a consequence, Armenia has been deprived of the possibility of bringing in large amount of grain purchased abroad, which is in the Black Sea ports of Russia and Ukraine.

The letter points out that this assistance in the current difficult times will constitute a profound political act, one which will be positively received in our republic and in international circles.

The letter also indicates that as soon as Armenia receives its own freight, it will return the grain received.

Manoyan noted that if Turkey really aspires for neutrality, as it has often declared in international forums, it should respond positively to the Armenian prime minister's request.

Official Says Azerbaijan 'Not Ready' To Talk

NC0409151392 Yerevan SNARK in English 1030 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] Yerevan, 4 September (SNARK)—Davit Shahnazaryan, the representative of the Armenian president at the Armenian-Azerbaijan meeting, has told today to the SNARK reporter that Azerbaijan should recognize Nagorno-Karabakh as the independent military and political state. Otherwise the prolonged stabilization at the Armenian- Azerbaijan border is impossible. He has declared that the both sides follow the armistice at the Armenian-Azerbaijan border. There should be worked out the strict mechanism of bilateral agreements between military and other departments of the republics. Unfortunately the Azerbaijan side is not ready for negotiations and has said that it has no authorities.

Spokesman Comments on Idzhevan Talks Authority

OW0409224492 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1840 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A spokesman for the Armenian president's press service informs Interfax that the Azerbaijanian delegation "did not have adequate authority" for conducting the talks on September 3 in Idzhevan, where the parties signed a protocol on the progress in realizing the Alma-Ata memorandum. At the same time, the press service regards the talks in Idzhevan as "another step forward in the process of stabilization of the situation."

UN Representative Comments on Peacekeeping Role

NC0709173892 Yerevan Radio Yerevan International Service in Armenian 1530 GMT 9 Sep 92

[Excerpts] Aleksandr Arzumanyan, ambassador to the United States and representative to the United Nations, who arrived in Yerevan for a few days' visit, held a news conference for reporters.

The reporters were interested in the internationalization of the Karabakh problem and the perception of the problem at international forums.

Arzumanyan said: There is an international opinion which must be shaped. Relevant decisions are being adopted at each stage. The perception so far has been that Karabakh is an internal Azerbaijani problem and that the latter has to give consent for peacekeeping troops, the deployment of which we are demanding. Azerbaijan, however, demands that the peacekeepers be deployed along the Armenian-Azerbaijani border. Our approach is different in principle, for we recognize the Karabakh Republic as [word indistinct] of the problem, and therefore, if peacekeepers are to be deployed along Armenian-Azerbaijani border, then similar troops should be sent to Karabakh as well. There have been historical precedents when certain sanctions have been imposed in cases in which one side has refused to abide by the decisions. We are working in that direction. Enormous efforts, however, are required from our Foreign Ministry and our ambassadors to bring about Karabakh's full membership in the talks, for Karabakh authorities themselves must decided the fate of Karabakh.

There must be a cease-fire, and the international community and international organizations, not Azerbaijan, should guarantee the security of the population. [passage omitted]

Asked about his relations with the Azerbaijani and Russian representatives at the United Nations, Arzumanyan said: I have normal relations with Azerbaijani representative Gasanov, and if need be, we examine certain issues. I have warm relations with Russian UN representative Mr. Vorontsov. I am learning much from him, for he is a renowned diplomat. I often ask his advise on purely diplomatic protocol matters. He comes to the Armenian mission, or I go to the Russian mission.

Arzumanyan next spoke about the financial problems connected with Armenia's UN membership. He noted that this problem has not yet been solved, because so far the division of the property of the former USSR's foreign missions has not been resolved.

New German Ambassador Presents Credentials

Meets With President

NC0509112492 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1730 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] (Gunter Dalhoven), German ambassador to Georgia and Armenia, gave his credentials to Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan today.

Addressing the ambassador, the president said he hopes his appointment will help the development of Armenian-German relations and increase the rate of mutually advantageous cooperation.

During a meeting after the ceremony, Ter-Petrosyan highly assessed the assistance and humanitarian aid the German Government and people gave Armenia following the destructive earthquake. He noted the importance of the establishment of bilateral diplomatic relations.

Ter-Petrosyan discussed the Karabakh problem with the ambassador, saying that the Armenian leadership considers establishing a cease-fire and creating security guarantees for the people of Nagorno-Karabakh Republic are the main problems now. However, the raising of Karabakh's status at international forums is hindering the resolution of the conflict and may even be damaging it. If the situation is not stabilized soon, it might assume international dimensions. Therefore, international organizations and states should get more actively involved to establish peace in the region. The Armenian president called on Germany, which enjoys prestige on international arena, to activate its peace efforts within the CSCE.

The ambassador received the president's views with understanding and promised to inform his government of them. He noted that Germany is interested in the restoration of peace in the region and hoped the CSCE will be transformed into an organization that can help solve such problems. In the name of his government, the ambassador expressed satisfaction at the balanced policy pursued by the Armenian leadership.

Matters pertaining to Georgian-Armenian relations were also raised during the meeting. The Armenian president emphasized that there exist no political or ethnic problems between the two ancient neighbors, and that Armenia is interested in the speedy stabilization of the political situation in Georgia and consolidation of its statehood. He said that after peace is reached, the two republics will even be in a position to contribute to international peace and cooperation.

The ambassador informed the president that a German mission will be opened in Yerevan in mid-September. It will form a good basis for the further development of bilateral diplomatic relations.

Other matters of mutual interest were also discussed during the meeting.

Notes Neutrality on Issue

NC0509062792 Yerevan Radio Yerevan International Service in Armenian 1530 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] The Armenian Foreign Ministry Press Service informed ARMENPRES that Deputy Foreign Minister Gevorg Gazinyan received the German ambassador in Georgia (Gunter Dalhoven) on 3 September.

Gazinyan briefed the ambassador on the grave domestic situation resulting from the Azerbaijani blockade and military operations and highlighted the need to speed up economic and political contacts between Armenia and Germany. The Armenian official said he considers the search for a peaceful resolution of Nagorno-Karabakh to be one of the important areas of Armenian-German cooperation. Indicating that the spread of the conflict could have very grave consequences for the region, he called on Germany to actively contribute to solving the problem. In clarifying Armenia's position, Gazinyan reiterated that the Karabakh problem is not an interethnic or religious war, but a struggle for the self-determination of the Karabakh people.

The German ambassador said that the resolution of the Karabakh conflict is very important for Germany and that his country's policy on this issue is one of complete neutrality. He said that a German mission will be opened in Yerevan soon.

Pannational Movement Urges Defense Enlistment

NC0709195892 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1730 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Text] The Armenian Pannational Movement leadership has appealed to the Armenian people to rise above the political and ideological differences at this critical moment in Nagorno-Karabakh, to forget the quarrels and injuries, muster all forces, and enlist nationwide in the sacred work of defending Nagorno-Karabakh. Only with the help of the Armenian people's fighting forces can the newly created army of the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic crush the enemy. The basis for victory above all else lies with the soldier who is ready to fight for the fatherland's salvation, and the need for these soldiers is (?acutely felt) nowadays in sacrosanct Nagorno-Karabakh.

The Armenian Pannational Movement leadership has called on the people of Nagorno-Karabakh and on each Armenian citizen ready to fight for the soil of the fatherland to present themselves at the new military call-up headquarters. It also called on all the public and political organizations in Armenia to join in this call and assist as much as possible in strengthening the defense of Nagorno-Karabakh.

Kazakh Official Comments on Talks, Cease-Fire

NC0409170992 Yerevan Radio Yerevan International Service in Armenian 1530 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Soon after the meeting yesterday between the Armenian and Azerbaijani delegations, we asked the Armenian representative at the talks, Davit Shahnazaryan, to comment on their outcome.

He said: We formally confirmed that both sides have halted military operations. The Azerbaijani side refused to enter into formal negotiations, arguing that it does not have such a mandate. To tell the truth, that surprised us a bit. Nevertheless, informal talks were held, during which we put forward concrete mechanisms to consolidate the small success we achieved today, which was cessation of military operations along the Armenian-Azerbaijani border. A small but important step has been taken to stabilize the situation on the border. He added, however, that this is only the first step, because a solution to the Nagorno-Karabakh problem, which is the main source of tension, has not yet been found. As long as Azerbaijan fails to come to terms with the fact that Nagorno-Karabakh Republic is an independent military-political entity, it will be difficult to expect a long-term [word indistinct] on the Armenian-Azerbaijani border. Asan Kozhakov, the Kazakh president's personal representative in Armenia, said that the sides agreed to continue the talks. Kozhakov said: The Nagorno-Karabakh problem was not discussed at this meeting in order to avoid an impasse in the dialogue. The Nagorno-Karabakh problem will constitute the next phase of the negotiations.

Kozhakov also disclosed that during the meeting the Armenian side also raised lifting the railway blockade. According to him, the Armenian request was received with understanding and hope was expressed that it soon will be possible to operate the railways. Well, let us see if that materializes.

Further on Remarks

NC0409142892 Yerevan SNARK in English 1020 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] Yerevan, 4 September (SNARK)—Asan Kozhakov, the personal representative of the Kazakh president has announced to the SNARK reporter that the armistice at the border is being followed in general. Asan Kozhakov is controlling the conditions of ceasing the fire within the Alma-Ata agreements. Kozhakov has informed on the absence of the incidents at the Armenian-Azerbaijan border from 1st of September. Personal representative of the Kazakh president is of the opinion that there will be a great chance to avoid serious incidents at the border.

Karabakh Official Notes Continuance of 'War'

NC0409142792 Yerevan SNARK in English 1020 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] Stepanakert, 4 September (SNARK)—Robert Kocharyan, the chairman of the Karabakh State Committee of Defence, has said today to the SNARK reporter, "the Alma-Ata Agreement on ceasing the fire doesn't interfere the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh. The war is still continuing here". He has entrusted the Azerbaijan authorities with the whole responsibility for the continuation of the war in Nagorno-Karabakh as the Azerbaijan authorities speak about armistice only at the Armenian-Azerbaijan border. That's why the forces of the self-defence of Nagorno-Karabakh have to retaliate that is to rebuff the large-scale aggression of Azerbaijan against the Republic of Nagorno-Karabakh.

Further on Fighting in Nagorno-Karabakh

NC0409180992 Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian 1530 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] KARABAKH NEWS AGENCY cites the Nagorno-Karabakh Republic [NKR] self-defense forces headquarters as reporting that a large Azerbaijani Army detachment moving out of Mehmana and [placename indistinct] in Mardakertskiy Rayon launched an attack on Kichan, Srkhavend, and Pokr-Srkhavend in the same rayon on 3 September. The Azerbaijanis managed to overrun Pokr-Srkhavend in the evening. After fierce battles, the Armenians succeeded in forcing the enemy back to its initial positions.

Azerbaijani formations also attacked Vank in Mardakertskiy Rayon, but were repulsed.

On the morning of 4 September, the Armenian self-defense detachments occupied Arutyunagomer and Verin-Zoratap and established control over Bash-Gunekaya, Orta-Gunekaya, and Maliklu. The Azerbaijanis have retreated to Vaguhas after suffering considerable casualties. There are dead and wounded on the Armenian side as well.

From their bases in Agdamskiy Rayon, Azerbaijani Army units subjected Askeran to fierce rocket and artillery shelling on the morning of 4 September. According to preliminary reports, the shelling caused damage and deaths. The Armenian detachments silenced the Azerbaijani firing positions.

[Yerevan Armenia's Radio First Program Network in Armenian at 1650 GMT on 4 September, reporting on the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh, quotes an ARMENPRES dispatch as saying that "the NKR self- defense forces shot down an Azerbaijani MiG-21 airplane as it approached Stepanakert at around 1930 today. The aircraft crashed between Melibeyli in Askeranskiy Rayon and Nnzi in Martuninskiy Rayon. Among the wreckage were found the remains of cluster bomb shells. It is hard to predict what would have happened if these bombs had been dropped on the city. The fate of the pilot is unknown, but he probably died.

["It has now become regular practice to inflict appropriate punishment on air pirates who violate the NKR's airspace and barbarically shell peaceful Armenian settlements. It is becoming apparent that the Republic's air defense system is taking shape."]

Two Helicopters Shot Down

LD0509134692 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1217 GMT 5 Sep 92

[By ARMENPRES-TASS]

[Text] Yerevan September 5 TASS—Reports released on Saturday [5 September] morning said that as a result of heavy fighting over the past twenty four hours, Armenian self-defence forces managed to liberate the villages of Khramort, Nakhishevanik, Prdzhamal, Arandzamin, Akhbulakh and Dagraz of the Askeran region of Nagorno-Karabakh, which were occupied in June by the Azeri Army.

According to reports from the Armenian self-defence headquarters, fire spots at the military bases of Gyulanlu and Abdala have been suppressed. In the course of the counter-offensive Armenian units destroyed two tanks and three infantry armoured carriers, seized a considerable amount of artillery and rifles.

According to preliminary estimates, 4 Armenian servicemen were killed and 17 wounded.

Two "Mi-24" helicopters besides the "MiG-21" plane belonging to the Azeri Air Force bombarding villages of the Askeran region, were shot down in Karabakh on Sunday [as received]. Preliminary reports say their crews died.

No considerable violations of the ceasefire agreement were reported in the Armenian regions bordering on Azerbaijan.

Azerbaijan

Elchibey Appoints New Chief of General Staff

NC0509162892 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1700 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] The presidential decree appointing Nureddin Sadykh oglu Sadykhov as first deputy minister of defense and chief of the Azerbaijan General Staff and promoting him to the rank of major general is as follows:

Considering the recommendation made by the minister of defense, I have decided:

1. Nureddin Sadykh oglu Sadykhov will be appointed as first deputy minister of Azerbaijan and chief of the Azerbaijan General Staff.

2. Colonel Sadykhov will be promoted to the rank of major general.

[Signed] Abulfaz Elchibey, president of Azerbaijan
Baku, 4 September 1992

We now draw your attention to the following announcement:

In accordance with the instructions issued by President Elchibey, Valekh Eyyub ogly Barshadly has been relieved of his responsibilities as the first deputy minister of defense and head of the Azerbaijan General Staff because he has been appointed to another post.

Elchibey Extends Call Up Period to 1 Oct

NC0409201992 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1900 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Text] President Elchibey's decree on extending the call up period for active military service is as follows:

The period established by Presidential Decree No. 686 of 17 April 1992 on the call up of Azerbaijani citizens for active military service from April to June 1992 and for discharging those military personnel, seamen, [word indistinct], and sergeant majors who have fulfilled their active military service into the ranks of the reserves, will be extended to 1 October 1992.

U.S. Officers Said To Serve in Armenian Army

NC0509132892 Istanbul TURKIYE in Turkish 2 Sep 92 p 13

[By Irfan Ulku]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] **American Officers Are in Armenia**

Speaking at Terterskiy Frontline Headquarters, Serdar Bey, Azerbaijani commander in Northern Karabakh and Terterskiy Front, told me: "According to our information, nearly 100 U.S. officers, some on active duty and some retired, are serving in the Armenian Army in Yerevan and in the front."

Armenian Officer in CIS Navy Arrested 3 Sep

OW0509132592 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1237 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Thursday [3 September] in Baku the Azeri military prosecutor's office captured a chief sub-lieutenant of the CIS Navy Grigoriy Ovanesov - an Armenian by origin. The prosecutor's office reported that he arrived to the capital of Azerbaijan some months ago with the aim to prepare transfer of one of the vessels of the Caspian military flotilla to the republic. An employee of the prosecutor's office said that Ovanesov had not fulfilled the order but as he had an access to the system of a universal technical control he had stolen two devices costing 600 thousand rubles and managed to forward one of them abroad. According to some experts, the technical possibilities of these devices allow to listen to telephone talks at a large distance.

Selected Cadets Summoned for Turkish Training

NC0709150292 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1700 GMT 6 Sep 92

[Text] The Azerbaijan Ministry of Defense has announced the following:

The candidates selected for military training in Turkey's military high schools and academies are called upon to report to the Supreme Joint Command School [Ali Birlesmis Komandanlik Mektebi] in Baku at 1000 on 7 September.

Armenian Talks Said Not To Take Place

PM0409135792 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 4 Sep 92 Morning Edition p 2

[Report by journalist Sokhbet Israfil under general heading: "Situation Around Nagorno-Karabakh"]

[Text] Baku—Back on 2 September talks should have begun in Kazakhskiy Rayon on the border between Azerbaijan and Armenia with Kazakhstan's mediation and a bilateral agreement should have been signed. But it has become known to an AZERINFORM correspondent that the talks did not actually take place. Mediators in Baku and Yerevan continued to conduct dialogue over the telephone.

Niyazi Ibragimov, leader of the Azerbaijan president's press service, has announced that the Azerbaijani delegation's departure from Baku for the meeting venue was deferred because of the Armenian side's refusal to accept the point in the draft agreement on the establishment of a state border regime between Azerbaijan and Armenia.

In N. Ibragimov's opinion this point of the agreement could prevent the continuous supply of military freight, combat equipment, and manpower from Armenia to

upper Karabakh along the Lachin corridor, which probably does not suit the Armenian side.

Meanwhile, Azerbaijani Foreign Minister Tofik Gasymov has announced, the Azerbaijani side notified official Yerevan in advance that it does not object to the delivery of humanitarian freight along the Lachin corridor. This fact, in the minister's opinion, merely confirms the real reasons for the Armenian side's reluctance to compromise.

According to reports from the Azerbaijani Defense Ministry, the situation in the conflict zone and on the border has not stabilized. Over the past 24 hours there has been intensive crossfire between the Armenian and Azerbaijani armed forces.

Continued Fighting in Nagorno-Karabakh Noted

NC0509184692 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1700 GMT 5 Aug 92

[Text] The Azerbaijan Ministry of Defense Analytical Information Center has reported the following:

Violent clashes have taken place in the western part of Karabakh during the past two days. The Armenians, who have suffered serious defeats in the other parts of the region, have concentrated their main forces against Agdamskiy Rayon. Reorganizing the units it has been left with, the Armenian expeditionary corps command headquarters launched attacks along the entire front in Agdamskiy Rayon yesterday and today. The Armenian units captured Abdal, Gyulably, (Dekhraz), Agbulak, [placename indistinct], Pirdzhamal, Nakhichevanik, and (Khramot). They were unable, however, to maintain their control on these towns for 24 hours. The enemy units were unable to resist against the countermeasures taken by the Azerbaijani Armed Forces [AAF] Command Headquarters. They were forced to retreat after suffering many casualties and losing a large number of armored vehicles.

AAF units have broken the Armenians' backs and liberated (Kramot), Pirdzhamal, and [placename indistinct]. Our units are maintaining their successful counterattacks in the violent clashes being waged for Nakhichevanik, Abdal, and Gyulably.

Some Armenian people who have been in a helpless situation as a result of the AAF's pressure fled to Armenia in 60 vehicles through the Lachin corridor last night. Our artillery units, which have obstructed the enemy's attempt to dispatch arms and military equipment to Karabakh through the Lachin corridor, have not touched the peaceful people.

The stable situation on the Azerbaijan-Armenia border has been disrupted as a result of Armenian [word indistinct]. Armenian units launched two attacks against the Kanly Kaya area in Akstafa Rayon on 4 September. The Azerbaijani fighters forced them to retreat. Kushchy Ayrum, Velikhan, [placename indistinct], and Bala Dzhafarli in Kazakhskiy Rayon; the Kanly Dere area in Akstafa Rayon; Agdam and Alibeyli in Tauzskiy Rayon; Mormor, Mutudere, and Novo-Ivanovka in Kedabekskiy Rayon; Kazakh in Fizulinskiy Rayon; [placenames indistinct] in Lachinskiy Rayon; the border areas in Kubatlinskiy and Zangelanskiy Rayons; and Sadarak and Shada in the Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic were fired on with various types of arms last night and today. One person was killed and eight others wounded in the attacks. The enemy fire was returned in all cases.

Azerbaijani units killed many enemy personnel and destroyed a tank and two infantry combat vehicles in the clashes which took place in Kharalar town in Lachinskiy Rayon.

Armenians Recapture Towns

NC0609180992 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1700 GMT 6 Sep 92

[Text] The Azerbaijan Ministry of Defense Analytical Information Center has reported the following:

Violent clashes have taken place in the western part of Karabakh during the past three days. We already have disclosed that (Khramot), Pirdzhamal, and (Aranzemin) were liberated as a result of the Azerbaijan Armed Forces' counterattack on 5 September. The enemy, however, using its reserve forces, tanks, and helicopters, today recaptured Pirdzhamal and (Aranzemin). The Armenians launched an attack on (Khramot) from three directions. Our units in the town have checked the attack and maintained their control over the town. Clashes are continuing on the Agdamskiy Rayon battle front. Three Armenian tanks were hit and disabled a short time ago. The enemy has lost many men and we also have suffered casualties.

Azerbaijani units right now are fighting to liberate Chldran in Agdere [Mardakertskiy] Rayon in northern Karabakh. The emigration of Armenians from the mountainous region in Karabakh to Armenia has taken the form of [word indistinct]. Another convoy of vehicles last night crossed from Lachinskiy Rayon into Armenia's Gorisskiy Rayon.

Fizulinskiy Rayon was fired on last night from the Armenian positions in Karabakh with various types of weapons.

The situation in the Azerbaijani-Armenian border area was relatively peaceful last night and today. Zangelanskiy and Kedabekskiy Rayons and Sadarak in the Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic have been fired on periodically with light weapons. Two of our fighters were wounded yesterday in Sadarak.

Quoting Armenian sources, the Russian television network's "Vesti" program carried an unfounded report on 5 September that an aircraft and two helicopters of the Azerbaijan Air Force were shot down over Karabakh.

Nakhichevan Orders Russian Troops To Leave

LD0509220192

[Editorial Report] Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian at 1900 GMT on 5 September, in its "Vesti" newcast, broadcasts a report by correspondent V. Martynov from Nakhichevan on the ultimatum to Russian troops to leave. The correspondent says:

"The deadline of another ultimatum put forward to the command of the Russian 41st Border Detachment in Nakhichevan expired today. In the opinion of the Nakhichevan republican leadership, the Russian border troops have no business there. The officers in green service caps agree. It is just a decision from Russia which is lacking, and there needs to be one."

The correspondent continues: "Azerbaijan protests the regime of a state border with Russia; and at the same time, people with submachine guns in Nakhichevan are blockading outposts, searching the border troops' vehicles, making even members of the Supreme Soviet of Russia get out of them, and are establishing their own regime there."

Nakhichevan Asks For Turkey's Help in Army

TA0509111592 (Clandestine) Bayrak Radio in Turkish to Cyprus 1030 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Text] Nakhichevan President Gaydar Aliyev has said that they have started to work to set up an official army now that the Russian brigade has left.

In a statement to ANATOLIA, Aliyev said that the Russians left all their weapons in Nakhichevan. Even though we have enough weapons, he said, we are finding it difficult to set up an army.

Aliyev said that one of the reasons is the of lack trained personnel, adding: We want Turkey to help us set up our army.

Presidential Associate Notes Government Success

OW0409204692 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1754 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Report prepared by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from the "Presidential Bulletin" feature—transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] In the three months of the new government's stay in power, it has managed to stop a whole series of military defeats and the republic's downfall as a state, said head of Azerbaijan's' Milli-Majlis (parliament), Isa Kamberov, at a press conference in Baku.

IF [INTERFAX] Note: Isa Kamberov is one of President Elchibey's closest associates in the Popular Front. Currently, he is chairing the republic's supreme legislative body. From mid-May through June 7, following the then president Ayaz Mutalibov's abortive attempt at returning the presidential office, Mr Kamberov was the republic's acting president. During that brief period of time, Mr Kamberov issued a series of Decrees on personnel changes in supreme power structures (all of his decisions remained in force after Elchibey's victory at the presidential elections in June).

Mr Kamberov maintains that in the above period the country began its movement toward a stabilization of the political situation without which, he maintains, any economic reforms would have been impossible.

The republic's parliament head is attaching special attention to establishing tenable border control regulations between Armenia and Azerbaijan. He is insisting on putting an end to using the Lachinsky corridor for the transfer of combat materiel and equipment from Armenia to Nagorno-Karabakh. In the meantime, he has no objections to humanitarian cargo transit from Armenia to Karabakh.

The cease-fire agreement at the Armenian-Azerbaijanian border, Mr Kamberov says, has to do with the area where Armenia borders on the Nakhichevan Autonomous Republic. Given both countries are sincerely interested in it, observance of the Alma-Ata moratorium could be insured, he claims. At the same time, Mr Kamberov argues that the cease-fire agreement has somewhat overtaken the pace of the talks: "they are trying to put the cart before the horse". The agreement should have been preceded by a reliable control mechanism, he claims.

In commenting on the opportunities for developing Nursultan Nazarbayev's mediatory initiative, the head of the republic's supreme legislative body noted that it stands out as a component of the CSCE integrated efforts. In the opinion of Mr Kamberov, armed development of the conflict there should be completed by the end of this year, although "there are indications that its settlement could be procrastinated".

In emphasizing that Baku is guaranteeing national and cultural autonomy to all the national minorities residing on the territory of Azerbaijan, Mr Kamberov had this to say in defining the position of the Azerbaijanian government in regards to the Armenian community: "If the Azerbaijanis evicted from Armenia were returned to the republic and provided normal living conditions, this would naturally facilitate our provision of analogous opportunities to the Armenian population in Azerbaijan." Touching on the prospects for Azerbaijan to become a member of the CIS, the chairman of the republic's Milli-Majlis noted that "the last decision in that regard belongs to the parliament", which intends to take up this problem beginning mid-September (when the parliament session resumes its work).

Mr Kamberov said that Azerbaijan is consistently pursuing a line for developing bilateral relations with all the republics of the former Soviet Union, emphasizing that Azerbaijan is currently preparing a series of agreements

with Russia on a wide range of issues in the areas of economic, cultural, scientific and technical cooperation.

As regards the forthcoming visit to Azerbaijan of the British ex-Premier, Ms Margaret Thatcher, (she is coming to the republic as a representative of the British Petroleum Inc.), Mr Kamberov said, "the visit is indicative of an increase of attention of the Western countries, as well as a confidence-building measure in our country, as an economic and political partner of the Western countries."

Georgia

Shevardnadze Appeals for Return to Peace

OW0709153792 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1310 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Chairman of the Georgian State Council Eduard Shevardnadze stated that "confrontation in society should be ended and the senseless war which has destabilized the situation and destroyed the population's habit to work, must be terminated." In a radio appeal to the people on Monday [7 September], Shevardnadze once again urged his armed opponents to lay down arms and return to peaceful life. Guarantees of safety were given.

Shevardnadze also said that the future of Georgia depended on the parliamentary elections. "If we hold the elections, the West will give us considerable aid," he said. "The West is waiting for peace to be restored in Georgia at last."

Further on Address

OW0709142492 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1044 GMT 7 Sep 92

[All quotation marks as received; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Chairman of Georgia's State Council Eduard Shevardnadze believes that "first practical steps" to settle the situation in Abkhazia "have been taken already". In a radio address to the population of Georgia on Monday [7 September], he noted that there was nothing more important for the conflicting sides now than to cease fire in keeping with the Moscow understandings because without that "all other efforts would be senseless".

Mr. Shevardnadze admitted that despite the agreement, exchanges of fire in the zone of conflict continued. In his words, several guards were wounded near the Eshery village, and fighting was under way at Gagry on Sunday.

The State Council's leader described as "superficial and irresponsible" the position of some Georgian politicians, criticizing the Moscow agreement and arguing that the negotiators had had to negotiate to the end ways of settling the Abkhaz conflict and resolve all the problems by force. In Mr. Shevardnadze's view, if such a notion prevailed, "consequences might be disastrous".

"We stopped at where we had to stop—he remarked. Any other actions would lead to the physical destruction of the Abkhaz people and to the moral destruction of the Georgian nation".

Meanwhile, the Chairman of Abkhazia's Supreme Soviet Vladislav Ardzinba stressed at Sunday's news-conference in Gudauty that in drafting the final document "at the Moscow meeting, the variant that suited Georgia was pushed through". In his words, Abkhazia was merely exposed to arms twisting. "Why did we still agree to sign the treaty—noted Ardzinba? If we hadn't done so, we'd have been held responsible in the world public eye for the disruption of the talks and would have been charged with the desire to continue the bloodshed rather than achieve peace".

Answering journalists, he stressed that the Supreme Soviet and Government of Abkhazia would return to the capital only if the State Council pulled its troops and military hardware from Suhkhumi in full. "If that is not done by September 15, we shall stay in Gudauty since we do not intend to meet in session with gun barrels directed at us"—the Abkhaz Parliament's Chairman declared.

He also announced that a group would fly to Abkhazia from Moscow to take part in a control commission led by the Deputy Defence Minister of Russia Kondratyev.

Shevardnadze: Moscow Accord 'Good Foundation'

OW0409201192 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1756 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Report prepared by Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from the "Presidential Bulletin" feature—transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The final agreement signed in Moscow September 3 is a good foundation for the establishment of peace in the region of conflict, said Chairman of the State Council Eduard Shevardnadze, answering questions from an INTERFAX correspondent late Thursday [3 September] evening. "The Moscow meeting achieved the main goal - to stop the bloodshed. The next level of collaboration on the path selected is the restoration of trust between the persons involved in the the fratricidal war," said the Georgian leader.

The State Council chairman had to admit that "individual soldiers" from Georgia's military forces did participate in acts of violence and marauding with bandits and thieves. The violence contributed to similar conflicts, which is why the cause for such conflicts should be decisively eliminated, said the Georgian leader. He expressed the hope that armed individuals from both sides properly accept the

two agreements reached in Moscow. He indicated that those involved are not interested in continuing the conflict. "These are good guys, they are patriots and are defending their position. But above all they are interested in peace," said Shevardnadze.

Shevardnadze explained the dispatching of Georgian troops into Abkhazia as a necessary move for the protection of railway and highway communications which, as he reminded, had been blocked by illegal local armed formations for almost 6 months. Not only Georgia suffered from this, but also Armenia. He estimated that the economic damage caused by the situation totaled 11-13 bn [billion] rubles, noting that the entire budget of independent Georgia was approximately 26 bn rubles. According to his information, on Abkahzian territory terrorists were in hiding where hostages were being kept. "How could a sovereign state reconcile itself with a situation like this?"

INTERFAX INFORMATION: Georgian Prime Minister Tengiz Sigua stated in an interview with INTERFAX that it would take one and a half to two months to restore basically normal life to the region of conflict. First they would have to restore railroads, bridges, roads, communication lines, energy supply, and communal farming. The prime minister stressed that it would be a large and expensive task. However, a declaration in the final document from the Moscow meeting stating that Russia and other CIS nations would come to Georgia's aid convinced him that the task would be accomplished. Participation from foreign countries is also anticipated.

State Council Ratifies Moscow Declaration

LD0509200292 Moscow Teleradiokompaniya Ostankino Television First Program Network in Russian 1700 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Report from Tbilisi by correspondent N. Gongadze; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The final document of the Moscow meeting, the declaration signed by Yeltsin and Shevardnadze, was ratified and supported today by the State Council of Georgia. At this time the most important thing is that all the clauses of the Moscow agreement should work in practice, said the chairman of the republic's State Council. It was stated that from today fire has ceased throughout the entire line of the border, and the commander in chief of the republic's government troops in the Republic of Abkhazia has even issued an order addressed to all the Georgian formations on observation of the conditions of the agreement.

It is reported that the exchange of hostages and prisoners has started. Two hundred volunteers from the Adygey autonomous oblast and from Chechniya have been permitted to leave the conflict zone unimpeded. Responsibility for the coordination of all the operations of the Georgian side is laid on Premier Tengiz Sigua, who flew to Sukhumi today.

[T. Lordkipanidze, member of the State Council of Georgia] I think that in the next few days a group of the Georgian intelligentsia will definitely go to Sukhumi. There will be meetings with our friends, with our students, with our elders, with Abkhazian actors and producers. And we should do everything to ensure that this broken bridge, this ruptured bridge should be restored immediately.

Abkhaz Leader Calls Moscow Talks 'Show'

OW0709175692 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1310 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Chairman of the Abkhazian parliament Vladislav Ardzinba described the Moscow talks on Abkhazia as a show staged specially for the Abkhazian side. "Just one tough statement made by Russia would have been sufficient to check the escalation of the conflict," he noted. The Moscow talks would not have been held, he continued, if the Confederation of Caucasian Peoples had not interfered in the conflict by sending its volunteers to Abkhazia.

Meanwhile, the Popular Party of Abkhazia made a statement urging the Russian military personnel stationed in Abkhazia "to take the side of the Abkhazian people, back their struggle against the Georgian invaders and not to act as an instrument of oppression. "In the trenches there are Russians, Ukrainians, Belarussians, Cossacks and Caucasians - all those who could not stay on the sidelines when a mortal threat cast a shadow on our republic, - risking their lives with us," says the statement of the Popular Party of Abkhazia.

Moscow Agreement 'Satisfies' Guard Commander

LD0609030492 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0000 GMT 6 Sep 92

[Text] The Georgian National Guard supports Eduard Shevardnadze's peace initiative in Abkhazia. Commanding officer of the government forces in Abkhazia, Gia Karkarashvili, said this in an interview on Georgian television. He said that the Moscow agreement on Abkhazia fully satisfies the National Guard's soldiers. The main point, he believes, is disbandment of illegal armed groups, and military control over highways and railways.

Abkhaz, Georgian Leaders Begin Sukhumi Talks

LD0609101392 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0905 GMT 6 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS "freelance correspondent" Tengiz Pachkoriya]

[Text] Sukhumi (Western Georgia), 6 Sep—Questions connected with the cease-fire and the ending of combat activities in Abkhazia, as well as concrete measures to implement the accords reached on 3 September in Moscow at the meeting of Russian, Georgian, and

Abkhaz leaders, will be discussed today at a meeting between representatives of the Georgian and Abkhaz leadership in Sukhumi (western Georgia). This was stated at the beginning of the meeting by acting Georgian Prime Minister Tengiz Sigua. He emphasized that all illegal military formations, and primarily those groups that arrived in Abkhazia from the northern Caucasus, must be disarmed.

Taking part on the Georgian side are acting Prime Minister Tengiz Sigua; Givi Lominadze, chairman of the provisional committee for the stabilization of the situation in Abkhazia operating in Sukhumi; General Georgiy Karkarashvili, commander of the units of the armed forces of the Republic of Georgia; Gela Lanchava, commander of the internal troops of the Republic of Georgia; and a number of Georgian deputies in the Abkhaz parliament. Taking part on the Abkhaz side are Zurab Labakhua, deputy chairman of the Abkhaz Council of Ministers; Colonel Viktor Kakaliya, commander of the Abkhaz Guard; and Abkhaz Supreme Soviet Deputy Aleksandr Ankvab.

Further on Talks

LD0609174592 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1600 GMT 6 Sep 92

[Report by K. Bzhaniya; from the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] [Bzhaniya] A meeting took place in Sukhumi today between members of the government and the military leadership of Georgia and Abkhazia, on the subject of the fulfillment of the Moscow agreement.

Practical implementation of its provisions is being hampered because State Council forces are continuing to exterminate the population of Ochamchirskiy rayon, which they control. Last night, the Georgian Guard attempted to break through the front line at Eshera and join up units with Gagra Mekhdrioni's forces. Abkhaz positions were shelled from tanks and helicopters.

Military intelligence denies reports that State Council heavy equipment has been withdrawn from Sukhumi.

As for the date when the Abkhaz government and parliament might return to Sukhumi, Vladislav Ardzinba stated today:

[Begin Ardzinba recording] That could be done only in the event that all troops and equipment—all troops—are withdrawn from the capital. Personally, as chairman of the Supreme Soviet, I have no intention of working under the guard of occupying forces on the territory of Sukhumi. [end recording]

[Bzhaniya] The parliamentary speaker stressed once again his dissatisfaction with the agreement reached, but he commented:

[Begin Ardzinba recording, in progress] ...strictly to observe and strictly to fulfill the conditions of this agreement, and to try to give the opponent a chance to demonstrate his peacefulness. [end recording]

Military Meeting Held; Protocol Signed

LD0609153392 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1511 GMT 6 Sep 92

[Report by ITAR-TASS freelance correspondent Tengiz Pachkoriya]

[Text] Sukhumi (Western Georgia), 6 Sep—A protocol on a cease-fire and withdrawal of troops along the Gumista river was signed here today by General Georgiy Karkarashvili, the commander of the Georgian Armed Forces formations in Abkhazia, and Colonel Viktor Kakaliya, the commander of the Abkhazian Guard. They held separate talks following the meeting of representatives of the Georgian and Abkhazian leadership with regard to the settlement of the Georgian- Abkhazian conflict.

The sides agreed to withdraw the troops beyond firing range and cease fire from the moment of the signing of the document. The Georgian and Abkhazian military leaders agreed that observers' groups be set up on each side to monitor the implementation of the document.

Journalists have learned that, during the talks between representatives of the Georgian and Abkhazian leaders, the Georgian side raised the question on the withdrawal, within three days, from Abkhazia of volunteers who arrived here from North Caucasus. The Abkhazian side did not object to this in principle. However, it proposed that they be withdrawn within a five-day period.

Sigua Pledges To Restore Order in Sukhumi

LD0509170192 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1620 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Report by freelance ITAR-TASS correspondent Tengiz Pachkoriya]

[Text] Sukhumi, 5 Sep—"At present, it is not the time to make mutual claims." The main thing is to get the situation back to normal, so that life can go along as it usually does, to get transport and communications working, and to get bread baked. This was stated by Tengiz Sigua, acting prime minister of Georgia, who arrived in Sukhumi today. His arrival here was explained by the fact that representatives of the Georgian and Abkhazian sides had agreed in Moscow on today's meeting with representatives of the Georgian and Abkhazian leadership in Sukhumi.

At the same time, the head of the government noted that the Abkhazian leaders had not yet arrived for reasons unknown to him.

Replying to the question of when robberies and looting on the territory of Abkhazia would stop, Tengiz Sigua said that "the leadership of Georgia and the military command will take extremely stringent measures, even

to shooting looters and robbers on the spot." He confirmed that, unfortunately, there are "unscupulous people" among the servicemen as well.

Abkhaz Chairman Ardzinba Asks Yeltsin's Help

OW0609161392 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1549 GMT 6 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Georgians have this afternoon ceased their intensive fire against Abkhazian positions in the vicinity of Eshera village near Sukhumi.

The Chairman of the Abkhazian Supreme Council, Vladislav Ardzinba, has sent a telegram to Russian President Boris Yeltsin, accusing the Georgians of violating the ceasefire agreement and claiming that Georgian infantry, tanks, and armored personnel carriers have made an attempt to break through Abkhazian defenses, which was witnessed by Russian forces stationed in the area. Ardzinba calls on Yeltsin to try and persuade the Georgian State Council to keep to the terms of the agreement signed in Moscow.

According to the press center of the Abkhazian Supreme Council, "arrests of non-Georgians are continuing on the Georgian-occupied territory. In Ochamchira District Georgian soldiers are plundering villages. In the village of Mokva, Georgian commandos have burnt down 48 houses."

Abkhaz Official Remarks on Forces Withdrawal

OW0709184492 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1817 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A member of the Presidium of the Abkhaz parliament, Sergey Shamba, has said that Abkhazia will not withdraw its forces from the current positions, contrary to the protocol signed in Sukhumi on Sunday [6 September].

Shamba has told IF [INTERFAX] that the "achievement of any agreements with the leaders of Georgia makes no sense, since the previous ones have been violated more than once". He said that an attack by helicopter gunships against Abkhazian positions in the village of Nizhnaya Eshera was fresh evidence of Georgia's reluctance to hoor the cease-fire agreement. Shaba said that Abkhazia has "complied with all of its pledges".

He said there will be no "peace in the republic until Georgian troops have left Abkhazia".

Russian Group in Sukhumi; Fighting Continues

OW0809114692 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1024 GMT 8 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Russian Defence Ministry's press center informed IF [INTERFAX] that a delegation of the Russian Federation left for Abkhazia on Tuesday [8 September] to take part in the work of the tripartite commission for control and inspection in the conflict zone. As envisaged in the Moscow agreement concluded on September 3, the commission will consist of representatives of Georgia, Abkhazia and Russia. The first session is to take place in Sukhumi Tuesday.

Russia is represented by First Vice-Chairman of the State Committee for Extraordinary Situations Yuriy Vorobyov, Deputy Defence Minister Colonel-General Georgiy Kondratyev, Deputy Security Minister Anatoliy Safronov, Deputy Foreign Minister Boris Pastukhov, Deputy Minister for Transportation Anatoliy Krivtsov and representatives of other Russian ministries and departments.

IF's correspondent in Tbilisi reports, meanwhile, that Georgia's Acting Prime Minister Tengiz Sigua who will chair the session told journalists in Sukhumi that "despite the complicated situation, maximum effort should be made to implement the Moscow agreement—if not peacefully then by force."

IF's correspondent in Gudauta says that last night and on Tuesday morning there was no active shooting between the conflicting parties, and property and equipment was evacuated from the territory of the Russian garrison in Lower Esheri.

The Abkhazian Parliament's press center reports that on Monday evening 3 Georgian helicopters attacked the Abkhazian positions near the village of Lower Esheri in the Sukhumi direction. One Chechen volunteer was killed; one person was wounded. The helicopters used unguided projectiles.

Commander of an Abkhazian reconnaissance unit located in the area of combat operations informed IF's corespondent that the helicopter attack was backed by Georgian artillery and tanks. The Georgians used pellet bombs. The commander of the unit who took part in combat operations said that the Georgian side lost at least 60 people; 6 armoured vehicles were damaged.

The Sukhumi commandant's office informed IF that on Tuesday evening shooting was resumed near Esheri when the Georgian units began to move heavy equipment from Esheri beyond the river of Gumista. Four guards were killed and 18 wounded. The losses of the Abkhazian side are not known.

The violation of the cease-fire agreement has cast doubts on whether commander of the Georgian forces in Abkhazia Georgy Karkarashvili and commander of the Abkhazian Army Vladimir Kakaliya will meet in Sukhumi on September 8.

The Gagra commandant's office reports that the Georgian positions within the city limits came under mass fire last night. Following a number of unsuccessful attacks on

the positions, volunteers from the regiment of the Confederation of Caucasian Peoples burnt 5 houses in the suburban village of Ipnari.

According to Georgian sources, the number of North Caucasian volunteers in the zone of conflict has increased to 3,500.

Shevardnadze, UN's Butrus-Ghali Discuss Abkhazia

LD0409163692 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1031 GMT 4 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Albert Kochetkov]

[Text] Tbilisi September 4 TASS—Head of the Georgian State Council Eduard Shevardnadze on Friday [4 September] morning talked over phone with visiting U.N. Secretary-General Butrus-Ghali, at the latter's request.

The secretary-general congratulated his interlocutor with the agreements on Abkhazia that were reached on Thursday in Moscow. Ghali described the final document of the Moscow meeting "as very important for the peaceful settlement of a dangerous conflict". He also voiced support for the Georgian leaders' course of solving political problems with exclusively democratic means.

Ghali hailed Shevardnadze's proposal to open a U.N. mission in Tbilisi, which, the U.N. secretary-general said, is fully in line with the initiative of the world body to dispatch a mission of its observers to Georgia. On this issue the sides reached preliminary agreements and decided to realise them in nearest future.

Officials Comment on Abkhaz Situation, Talks

OW0709065092 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0557 GMT 7 Sep 92

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] According to Abkhazia's defence headquarters located in the village of Upper Eshery, the Georgians opened massive fire last night and this morning outside the village and near the village of Lower Eshery. Saturday night [5 September] there was an attempt to launch an attack by tanks in the village of Lower Eshery. Since this morning a battle has been raging there, said the press service of Abkhazia's envoy in Russia. The Abkhazian headquarters charges that the Georgians have used the ceasefire agreement to strengthen their attacking grouping all along the line of confrontation in the Sukhumi direction.

In this connection the commander of Abkhazia's armed forces Viktor Kakalia has said in an interview for IF [INTERFAX]'s correspondent that the development of events today remains unpredictable. What Georgia is withdrawing from Sukhumi is damaged equipment only, he added. According to V. Kakalia, Georgian commanders "are in control of their armed units only partially, and if the issue of Georgian troops pullout from Abkhazia is raised toughly, part of the armed groupings will go out of the State Council's control". The chief of Abkhazia's armed forces believes that a way out of this situation will not be found too soon.

Kakalia says that "evidently a third force will be required to stabilize the situation in the area of crime which can be described as extraordinary even for war time".

The chairman of Abkhazia's parliament Vladislav Ardzinba said in a televised address on Saturday that the signing of the Moscow agreement was "a forced step which can be viewed only as transition measure".

At a routine session of Georgia's State Council Edward Shevardnadze promised the Abkhazians "genuine guarantees for the protection of their rights, but not at the expense of other peoples".

The flow of refugees to Gudauty District where the Abkhazian authorities led by the parliament chairman Vladislav Ardzinba are based continues. According to the headquarters for refugees, 9,000 refugees have been registered in Gudauty District whose own population exceeds 60,000. More than 60% of the refugees are from Sukhumi.

Redeployment of Forces Begins in S. Ossetia

LD0509082392 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0712 GMT 5 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Shanayev]

[Text] Vladikavkaz, 5 Sep— Following an order by the joint peacemaking forces command, the redeployment of Russian, Georgian, and Ossetian battalions began in the Tskhinvali area today. This is linked to the fact that soldiers' and officers' contracts are running out. The Georgian and Ossetian battalions will have new blood infused into them and will be brought up to strength with reservists. The first column of vehicles with the soldier-peacemakers, who will take up the positions that were agreed upon earlier, left Vladikavkaz today. When the selection of volunteers for the Ossetian battalion was under way, the level of training and discipline and the internationalist composition of the battalion were taken into account.

The subunits of the 104th Russian Pskov Paratroop Regiment, which have carried out their tasks to the fullest, are being withdrawn from South Ossetia. They will be replaced by soldiers from a motorized rifle battalion.

According to reports from the Supreme Soviet of South Ossetia and North Ossetia's Ministry of Security, the situation in the region is calm. Over the past 24 hours no exchanges of fire or armed ethnic clashes were repored. The peacemaking forces at the posts in the worst crisis-prone locations, along the 15-km demarcation corridor, have the situation completely under control.

Struggle Among South Ossetian Officials Noted

LD0609224992 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0300 GMT 6 Sep 92

[Text] The mass media have been bypassing South Ossetia lately. However, the political situation in this republic is not straightforward. With the details, Olga Borisova:.

[Borisova] The gunfire has at last ceased in South Ossetia, and after three years of war there is peace, albeit fragile. Reports from Tskhinvali have vanished from the newspapers, magazines, radio and television recently, and one might get the impression that the area is no longer a flashpoint. Appearances, however, are deceptive. Today, many people in South Ossetia and in Tskhinvali in particular believe that the current peace is far from strong and that fighting could resume here at any moment.

The truce would, of course, have been of much greater benefit if peace and concord also prevailed in the Supreme Soviet of South Ossetia. However, the situation has changed, and not for the better as expected. A real struggle has suddenly broken out in the corridors of power between Supreme Soviet Chairman Torez Kulumbegov and the deputies. Kulumbegov's desire to concentrate power solely in his own hands has met determined resistance from the people's deputies, who are counting on support from the people of Tskhinvali and South Ossetia.

On the agenda for the Supreme Soviet's most recent session was the status of South Ossetia, this being the most substantial and important unresolved political issue; the chairman, however, struck it off. This caused furious objections and dissatisfaction among the deputies. Kulumbegov is being accused of pursuing a clearly pro-Georgian policy. This opinion is shared by some of the people in South Ossetia who fought for Kulumbegov's release when he was arrested by the Georgian authorities. This is a fitting time for change, and could bring results quite soon. But it is being squandered on political in-fighting.

Meanwhile, the main issue, which brought the two peoples to war, remains unresolved: Will South Ossetia at last receive the status of autonomous oblast or republic, or will it achieve independence? The revival of the devastated economy is also being held back by disagreements between deputies' groups, the South Ossetia leadership, and even the forces of law and order. One thing, however, is clear: These disagreements cannot be of any good to anyone. South Ossetia remains a central issue for the politicians.

Opposition Releases Shevardnadze Aide

LD0709100492 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0927 GMT 7 Sep 92

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Albert Kochetkov]

[Text] Tbilisi, 7 Sep—David Salaridze, assistant of the chairman of the Georgian State Council who was taken hostage by anti-government forces, has been released. He was taken hostage on 11 August along with a group of 12 high-ranking members of the Georgian State Council and government staff in the town of Zugdidi, in the west of the republic. This happened during the talks with supporters of former President Zviad Gamsakhurdia. In his statement for local television, Boris Salardize said he was treated well during the entire period of captivity and he was kept in normal conditions in Galskiy rayon. Police Major General Zibert Khazaliya, deputy interior minister of Georgia, is the sole remaining hostage among the high-ranking officials who have yet to be released.

Former President Gamsakhurdia Interviewed

PM0109122792 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 1 Sep 92 First Edition p 7

[Interview with Zviad Gamsakhurdia by correspondent Aleksandr Aleshkin in Groznyy; date of interview not given: "Zviad Gamsakhurdia: Perhaps I Made Mistakes in Relations With People"—first paragraph is introduction]

[Text] We offer for readers' attention an interview with Zviad Gamsakhurdia, who is in Groznyy and who sets forth his view of the tragic events in Abkhazia and the sociopolitical situation in Georgia. The editorial office's viewpoint does not coincide with all the opinions voiced by Mr Gamsakhurdia but the editorial office has deemed it expedient not to change anything in the tape recording passed on by its own correspondent Aleksandr Aleshkin.

[Gamsakhurdia] From the first days of its rule in Georgia, Z. Gamsakhurdia said, Shevardnadze's criminal junta has established a totalitarian regime, is destroying democracy and carrying out the genocide of the population of all Georgia. It is impossible to single out any one of the nationalities inhabiting Georgia and subjected to this violence.

The people are resisting. And Shevardnadze is using bloody methods to suppress this resistance from the people. He is using weapons and tanks. And what began in Georgia last year and in January this year is continuing even now. Nothing new is happening in Abkhazia. The same thing is happening in Abkhazia that happened in Tbilisi: terror, genocide, destruction, the annihilation of people, looting, and pillage.

Unfortunately, nothing has so far been said about this. Everyone has closed their eyes. No one could be bothered with the grief and suffering of the Georgian people. And now they have started to say a little when they have seen things for themselves in Abkhazia. I support the Abkhazian people. On the first day of the tragedy I made an appeal to the Abkhazian people.

I am grieved that for eight months the junta has been conducting genocide in Georgia. What is happening is not Georgia's aggression against Abkhazia but the junta's aggression against all Georgia, against the Georgian and

Abkhazian peoples. This fascist junta has been so far operating with impunity. Now too it is operating with relative impunity because Yeltsin is making ambiguous statements. Khasbulatov also supports the junta. The Russian public has recently started to say a little. That is a big plus. World public opinion has also started to be vocal, and that is also a big plus. But effective aid to Abkhazia is needed. Otherwise the genocide of that small people is inevitable. Of course, Ardzinba is also somewhat to blame here. He accepted the anticonstitutional act of the restoration of the old constitution of Soviet Abkhazia. And thus in fact announced Abkhazia's secession from Georgia.

But first of all we must poison [as published] the junta's aggression, stop the bloodshed, and resolve all questions of Abkhazia's status on the basis of international law, talks, and political dialogue and not through force of arms, by resorting to genocide.

That is my position on the events in Abkhazia.

[Aleshkin] What is your prediction for the further development of events in Abkhazia and Georgia?

[Gamsakhurdia] My prediction is a gloomy one. The junta nonetheless has considerable power. President Yeltsin supports it. The Transcaucasus Military District supports it, supplying it with weapons, equipment, and military specialists. The junta will continue the genocide and bloodshed until support ceases from the Russian leadership, until the whole world holds it up to shame and unites with a view to eliminating its activity in Georgia. Otherwise the prediction for the development of events will be very unfavorable and dangerous primarily to Russia itself.

[Aleshkin] Your opinion of the results of the forthcoming elections in Georgia?

[Gamsakhurdia] These are anticonstitutional elections. They are not real elections, they are the junta's elections. They do not have the right to call them. According to Georgia's Constitution elections can only be called by a legally elected government and not by a junta of criminals and fascists. That is why the present elections are not elections at all but simply falsification in the spirit of the communist regime, a political farce.

[Aleshkin] The opinion is being voiced that Shevardnadze, uncertain of the success of the forthcoming elections, has "specially" undertaken the action in Abkhazia in order to cite the state of emergency and put them off indefinitely...

[Gamsakhurdia] Despite the war, Shevardnadze is holding the elections. The registration of candidates has ended. Shevardnadze has nominated himself first. So that he intends to play out the farce to the end. Your story, as we can see, is not being vindicated. He needed Abkhazia simply to establish a dictatorship there, as he has done in Tbilisi.

[Aleshkin] Do you believe that you return to carry out the duties of Georgian president is possible?

[Gamsakhurdia] I do believe it is possible. That depends on the results of the Georgian people's struggle and on the struggle of all peoples of the world. The peoples of the world must help me, must support me. Because a very great crime has been committed against international law.

[Aleshkin] If it were possible to turn time back, what would you not have done as president? What would you have renounced in politics?

[Gamsakhurdia] You mean, did I make mistakes? Everyone makes mistakes. As for me, perhaps I made mistakes in relations with people, in cadres questions, but as a whole I do not consider my policy mistaken.. Because my activity was based on international law and the Georgian Constitution.

[Aleshkin] But your attitude toward the joint peacekeeping forces in Tskhinval? Do you welcome stabilization in this region with satisfaction or do you receive it with jealousy and anger?

[Gamsakhurdia] The joint peacekeeping forces are a misnomer. They are not joint forces at all, they are Russian troops introduced to establish Russia's rule. There are not Georgian forces there at all, or else their number is very small, and they have no weapons.

It may be said that the aggression of Russia and Ossetia against Georgia is continuing.

[Aleshkin] What are your relations with Chechen Republic President Dzhokhar Dudayev and the republic's leadership as a whole?

[Gamsakhurdia] Very good. I shall put it this way: We have friendly relations. We are old friends. Because we do not struggle against anyone, we do not resort to aggression. We defend our peoples. Dudayev is defending his people and their independence. I am defending my people and my state. That brings us close together.

[Aleshkin] In the spring of last year you met with Boris Yeltsin in Kazbegi and signed a protocol there. Does it not seem to you that that as a politician you have let slip your historical chance by subsequently rejecting talks and counting on force?

[Gamsakhurdia] The opposite seems to me to be the case: Yeltsin has let slip his historical chance of becoming a real democrat, the keeper of his country's constitution. By interfering in Georgia's internal affairs and helping the fascist junta there, Yeltsin is destroying his country's constitution. I am not destroying my country's constitution. In Kazbegi we agreed on noninterference in each other's internal affairs. But Yeltsin has violated this treaty and is violating it every day, interfering in Georgia's internal affairs and helping the fascist junta. He is thus harming his prestige. A very great deal. Because the world will ultimately condemn him.

[Aleshkin] What is the president in exile doing?

[Gamsakhurdia] I am engaged in continuing my presidential activity. I am writing appeals to the Georgian people and decrees, appointing people to various posts, and engaging in journalism. I am collecting information about Georgia, informing the Russian and world public of the fascist terror in Georgia and the genocide of the Georgian people. All my efforts are aimed at helping the Abkhaz people and protecting them from genocide.

Shevardnadze Only Candidate for Speaker

LD0509153792 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1440 GMT 5 Sep 92

[Report by Igor Serbryakov from the ITAR-TASS agency]

[Text] Hello. At this time of day we usually tell Mayak listeners the hot news, just received from ITAR-TASS correspondents, which the agency then releases through its channels. Forty minutes ago, the Central Electoral Commission in Tbilisi completed the procedure for nominating candidates for the post of speaker of the republican parliament. Eduard Shevardnadze, chairman of Georgia's state council, will be the only candidate aspiring to this top position, since none of the possible rivals dared to compete in the elections with a political leader whose rating among the republic's population is at its highest today.

The election of the speaker of the Georgian parliament will be conducted on the basis of universal, direct, and secret ballot with majority vote, which is unprecedented in world parliamentary practice. In order to win in the election, which is to take place on 11 October, Shevardnadze must get no less than one-third of the electors' votes.

Shevardnadze, European Bank Leader Meet 4 Sep

LD0509154892 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1610 GMT 4 Sep 92

[Report by ITAR-TASS correspondent Albert Kochetkov]

[Text] Tbilisi, 4 Sep—Eduard Shevardnadze, the chairman of the State Council of Georgia, had a meeting in Tbilisi today with Jacques Attali, the president of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. During their talk, the sides discussed possible options for attracting foreign credits and investments in Georgia's economy and using the European Bank's credit to stabilize the republic's economy, which would help to integrate its national economy into the world economy.

Eduard Shevardnadze and Jacques Attali reached accords whereby specific steps in these directions will be determined after the republic has made available to the Bank projects which have already been developed by Georgian specialists in collaboration with foreign consultants and experts.

The projects, including those dealing with the reconstruction of a number of major transport and communication networks, the building of large processing enterprises of the agro-industrial complex and others, are to be submitted to the European Bank for final approval by 14 December of this year.